

the chronicle

Fizzog on tour

Black Country entertainers are heading out in new run

Page 3



Blaizing talent

Teenager Blaize hits right note for TV show audition

Page 8



Sport

All the best of Boxing Day's sporting action

Page 27-28



3,000 are opposed to market changing

ALMOST 3,000 people have signed a petition against plans for a £6 million transformation of Dudley's historic market place.

Traders and shoppers have backed a campaign demanding a rethink on the proposals.

Under the plans the market place would be revamped and new stalls with canopies installed. The number of stalls would be reduced from 74 pitches

Repair work would also be carried out on the fountain while the Duncan Edwards statue would be moved.

Among those objecting to the proposed revamp is David Flavell, 50, whose family has run a fruit and veg stall at Dudley Market for 200 years. He doesn't believe that modernising the market will encourage more shoppers. He said: "I don't think this will work."

Councillor Malcolm Davis, who is behind the petition, has now secured a meeting between council bosses and traders which will take place next month.

He said: "It's a traditional market which is still doing well despite being surrounded by empty shops. Why mess with it? I have got almost 3,000 names on the petition." Dudley Council spokeswoman Clare Marshall confirmed a meeting will take place in January.

Lower speed limit plans

PLANS for new 20 mph speed limits outside schools in Dudley are set to go out for consultation early next year. Borough bosses are considering introducing the limit outside some schools in a move to improve safety for children.

The scheme, which is already being trialled outside three schools - Olive Hill Primary and Newfield Park Primary, Halesowen, and Crestwood School, Kingswinford - was first discussed last year.

PUB BOSS ANGRY AT LOOS-ING CASH

A DUDLEY landlord is fed up because a constant stream of drivers and shoppers are taking advantage by popping into his pub to spend a penny - without even buying a pint.

By Louise Jew



Landlord Alan Davies

Licensee Alan Davies says he is having to fork out an extra £100 a week in cleaning and loo roll costs since Dudley Council closed the public toilets next to his pub, the Red Lion, Abbey Road, Lower Gornal.

He thinks the council should give him a discount on his business rates as compensation.

The public convenience next to the Red Lion was closed earlier this year because Dudley Council says it needed costly repairs.

But Mr Davies says, ever since, around 20 people a day, including drivers from the nearby bus station, lorry drivers and local shoppers come into his pub just to use the toilet.

He has arranged for his cleaner to make two more visits a day to tackle the toilets and says that, together with extra cleaning products and loo roll, it is costing him £100 a week.

"People troop in just to spend a penny - and don't

even buy a pint," said Mr Davies, aged 45.

"I feel sorry for the people who are caught short, particularly pensioners, but I think the council should make a concession on my rates."

"Besides this pub, I also run another Red Lion in Wordsley and the Woodman Inn in Gornal, so I pay around £2,000 a month in business rates and I think they should knock some off that if they are expecting the community to use my toilets."

"But the council has refused my request."

The council closed eight public conveniences in June to save £150,000 a year - but the one next to the Red Lion shut several months earlier than the others.

Investment

Dudley's cabinet member responsible for toilets, Councillor Patrick Harley, said: "The Gornal block had major maintenance issues which would have cost the taxpayer thousands of pounds to repair and required significant investment to make it compliant for disabled users."

"If a private business is unhappy with the public using their facilities we would suggest they remind people facilities are for customers only in order to capitalise on any additional footfall," added Councillor Harley.

Restoration of scrolls gets under way



Borough Artist Steve Field and Councillor Jill Nicholls with the restored Scrolls at Hawne Playing Fields in Stourbridge Road, Halesowen.

RESTORATION work to a concrete art structure in Halesowen has begun after years of vandalism and decay.

The scrolls which stand at the entrance to Hawne Park recreation ground - also known as Scrolls Park - on Stourbridge Road, are one of the town's few large scale pieces of art.

They feature a verse which captures Halesowen's historic 19th Century reformer Thomas Attwood's attempts at passing the 1832 Reform Act.

But after the theft of more than 100 of the metal letters work to cast new templates, which started in the sum-

mer, is now complete. Dudley borough artist Steve Field who installed the original letters 20 years ago led the major project.

"Public art needs to be respected, this is such an important and significant local figure and it was great to receive so much positive feedback while we were reinstating the lettering. There was a lot of local interest in getting the structure back to its former glory and while it was strange to be working on the scrolls after so many years I am really pleased with the end result," Belle Vale councillor Jill

Nicholls who has campaigned for funding via the council's culture and recreation department after complaints from residents said: "The scrolls are a unique feature we should be proud of, because I doubt if there is another entrance to any park in the country like this."

"They mark a piece of history of Halesowen but had fallen into a state of disrepair of which the lettering had suffered. The new lettering and recently resurfaced car parking area will overall enhance the appearance of this historical artwork."

100 cases of C-diff reported at hospital

ALMOST 100 cases of super-bug C-diff have been reported at Dudley's Russells Hall Hospital since April. Staff are now working to reduce numbers, having missed their own target of no more than 77 cases in 2011-12.

Chief executive Paula Clark said there had been 99 post-48 hour C-diff cases at the site in the past nine months. But she added staff had reported the number of outbreaks was beginning to fall. "We have continuously monitored all cases and put measures in place," she said.

"Some of the actions we have taken include reviewing each case to establish if there is a specific reason for the increase and investing in a hydrogen peroxide machine for deep cleaning," Ms Clark added.

Regular staff briefings on the superbug are held to ensure staff are up-to-date on measures to be taken to help prevent infection.

The hospital trust has also called upon external experts to get advice and assess whether it is taking the right action to drive down the number of cases. The trust is remaining with an ambered risk rating by Monitor, the independent regulator of Foundation Trusts because of the high number of cases.

It had previously received the rating due to concerns by the Care Quality Commission.

Six fined for early waste

SIX RESIDENTS have been handed £75 fines and 700 more sent warning letters for putting out their rubbish too early in Dudley.

Dudley Council bosses have vowed to crack down on people putting out their waste early and obstructing footpaths with bin bags.

The authority has a rule that rubbish should not be left out before 7.30pm on the night before collection. The clampdown was launched in September last year.

SHAW STONE SURFACES LTD

Tel: 0121 503 0817

Unit 11, Mucklow Hill Trading Estate, Mucklow Hill, Halesowen, West Midlands B62 8DF
www.shawstonesurfaces.co.uk email: sales@shawstonesurfaces.co.uk

APPROVED FABRICATOR

SILESTONE

- Granite, Quartz and Corian Kitchen Worktops
- Template and Installation Service
- Worktop Replacement Service
- 15 Year stain proof granite warranty and 10 year Silestone warranty
- Bespoke vanities for bathrooms
- Hearths and Fireplaces made to measure



thechronicle

CONTENTS

Letters	7
Peter Rhodes	4
Puzzle page	20
Reviews	16
TV	17-20
Motoring	22-23
Classified	24-26
Sport	27-28

CONTACT US



News:
Tim Spiers
Tel: 01902 319363

What's happening in your area? We are always keen to hear about any issues affecting you. Email your information and pictures to wolvchron@expressandstar.co.uk

Sport
E-mail: sport@wolvchron

Photographic

John Sambrooks
Tel: 01902 319431

Advertising:

Dudley
Nikki Cope
Tel: 01902 319573 E-mail: n.cope@expressandstar.co.uk

Halesowen
Emma Parkes
Tel: 01384 35324E-mail: e.parkes@expressandstar.co.uk

Distribution: Paul Jones
Tel: 01902 319537 E-mail: p.jones@expressandstar.co.uk

DUDLEY
thechronicle

Queen Street
Wolverhampton
WV1 1ES

Open Monday to Friday 9am-1pm
and 2pm-5pm
www.yourchronicle.com

Budget store planned for centre site

A BUDGET store is among plans for Dudley town centre after a supermarket proposal on the site was scrapped by developers.

Regeneration chief councillor Angus Adams today said the site off Tower Street and Castle Street – which was originally earmarked for a large supermarket leading to the council buying up land in the area – was deemed too small. Instead they have now revealed developers have

said the site could be turned into a budget store with a car park nearby.

It comes after council chiefs revealed they now plan to build a supermarket on the Cavendish House site.

Rejected

Councillor Adams said: "The plans were rejected because the footprint for the size of the store was deemed too small for the require-

ments of the developer for a large supermarket.

"That was when the Cavendish House site was pursued. I believe the developer is now looking at a budget-type store now but I don't know any more at this stage."

Council spokeswoman Clare Marshall added: "Advice from retail market experts has been to pursue the car park on the rear of the site alongside delivering all the other

proposed town centre improvements. "The site would then be ideally suited for a developer to bring forward several major store units which would be of a size and dimension required by modern retailers." She said decisions on a developers or occupiers for the project had not yet been confirmed. Cavendish House, in Trindle Road, which has stood empty since 2008 will be knocked down.

Rioter facing jail term for stealing computer

A rioter from Dudley is facing being locked up after admitting stealing a laptop during the summer looting and violence in a Black Country city centre.



Robert Thoane

Robert Thoane, of Dudley, told a court he found the computer discarded on a street while he was in Wolverhampton city centre as thugs ran amok in August.

Just a few hours after the disorder, the 20-year-old was seen running with the laptop under his arm in Walsall with a gang of other youths.

At Wolverhampton Magistrates Court, Thoane admitted theft by finding and was released on bail to appear before the city's crown court to be sentenced in the new year.

Prosecutor Mr Roger Bleazard told last week's

by Shaun Jepson

hearing that Thoane, of Hollyhock Road, was arrested after widespread disorder on August 9.

"He was seen by officers running through Walsall some hours after the rioting in Wolverhampton," he said.

"He was asked whether he had stolen it and he said it had already been taken as part of the riots and that he had acquired it."

The court heard Thoane had admitted being in the city centre during the chaos. He intended to keep the laptop, said Mr Bleazard.

District Judge Michael Wheeler committed the case to the crown court after deciding his powers of sentencing were not strong enough.

He said guidelines for punishment range from between one and four years in prison.

Scores of shops in Wolverhampton were hit by rioters during the disorder. So far, more than 700 people have been arrested in connection with the trouble. More than 160 of those have been charged and dealt with.

More 50 officers are still involved with the riot investigation.

Keen on Woolies

A FORMER Woolworth's store that has stood empty in Kidderminster for three years could be taken over by a furniture firm whose town premises were destroyed by a huge fire. Levine had to be knocked down when the blaze ripped through its store and the neighbouring British Heart Foundation charity shop.

Area manager Simon Levine said they were looking at Woolworth's in Worcester Street and TJ Hughes in Vicar Street, which shut down six months ago. He said: "We are looking at those sites in particular but nothing has been signed yet. We want to remain in Kidderminster."

Sophie's songs spread cheer



Sophie Harris who performed for residents and staff at New Bradley Hall

A YOUNG singer brought some early Christmas cheer to residents and staff at a closure-threatened Dudley care home.

Sophie Harris, aged 12, of Pensnett, performed music from artists ranging from Frank Sinatra to Bruno Mars at New Bradley Hall, Kingswinford.

She was dressed in a Santa hat for her

show which also included traditional Christmas songs. It was the second time the Kingswinford School pupil had performed at the care home this year.

New Bradley Hall has been earmarked for closure but council bosses have promised to re-think the proposals following a campaign by residents and their families.

No sales planned for closed loo sites

TOILET blocks which were closed earlier this year in a Dudley to save cash look set to remain unused for the foreseeable future.

Dudley Council chiefs have admitted there are "limited opportunities" to sell them.

Borough bosses shut eight public toilets earlier this year in a bid to save £150,000.

Among the sites which went were The Cross, Kingswinford and Cottage Street, Brierley Hill.

The move, which prompted concern among some residents worried they would face a long trip to find an alternative public convenience, left five toilet blocks in town centres in the borough.

Council chiefs said although they are not actively marketing the sites they would be interested in any proposals.

Matt Williams, assistant director for environmental management, said: "We appreciate there are limited opportunities available."

"However, we would be interested in any viable redevelopment of these facilities."

Hospice is given boost

THE FREEMASONS have donated more than £2,000 to a Black Country hospice.

Richard Goddard, provincial grandmaster for Worcestershire, presented a cheque for £2,120 to Mary Stevens Hospice, Stourbridge to help towards patient care.

A total of £11,200 has been donated to five hospices across the area from the Freemasons' grand charity, with more than £600,000 being given to adults and children's hospices across England and Wales.

All donations aim to support the hospices in treating the terminally ill.

It's panto time

A THEATRE group is getting ready to stage its third annual pantomime. Limelight Productions will stage Peter Pan at Kidderminster's Rose Theatre nightly from Thursday until January 7 at 7pm with matinees on December 29, 30, January 2, 4 and 7 at 2pm. Call 01562 743745 tickets.

A-Zee Fix
DOUBLE GLAZING INSTALLATIONS & REPAIRS
Telephone: 01384 259761 Mobile: 07769 975841

- 70mm Internally Glazed High Security Frames
- 28mm Pilkington 'K' Units
- Document L Compliant
- Shoot Bolt Locking
- Sight Line Glazing
- Secured By Design PAS023 / PAS024

Repairs and Upgrades
Insurance Work
Failed Units
Broken Locks
Door Panels
Letter Boxes
Sticking Doors
Handles and Mechanisms

White
Light Oak
Rosewood
Woodgrain on White

ALL WORK GUARANTEED
PHONE TODAY FOR A FREE QUOTATION

FENSA
Registration No. 2309

There is one small job that you have been meaning to do for years -

Make Your Will

Only £70.00 plus VAT
Per person for couples, Mirror Wills.
Single Wills £75.00 plus VAT
A home visit at a convenient time
For information and appointment call
0845 678 7010
Wills, Trusts, Lasting Powers of Attorney, Will Storage, Estate Planning and Guardianship Trusts
Members of the Society of Will Writers
Goodwills Ltd
www.goodwillsmidlands.co.uk

PROFESSIONAL CARPET & UPHOLSTERY CLEANING

Meet Adrian, the manager of Professional Carpet and Upholstery Cleaning. He has over 20 years experience of cleaning, repairs and fitting carpets. He also cleans upholstery as well as leather, home and office. No job too big or small. Technician Woolsafe Accredited

Telephone anytime for a free quotation
Covering all
Stourbridge, Dudley & Halesowen areas

TEL: 01384 444022
or 0121 585 6591

FOOTWORKS
Chiropody Clinic

- Full range of services with disabled friendly access
- Nail Cutting and Trimming
- Diabetic Footcare
- Corns and Calluses

01384 413444
201-203 Halesowen Road, Old Hill B64 6HE
www.footworkschiropodists.co.uk

Broken Dentures?

1 hour denture repair service

New Dentures
available & made at...
The Dental Shop
Est. 1981
01384 413444
201-203 Halesowen Road, Old Hill, W. Mids. B64 6HE
www.the-dental-shop.co.uk

Clubbers warned to book taxis

REVELLERS are being urged to book taxis and agree a fare before travelling home to prevent disputes over the festive period.

Police have been meeting with Dudley's Taxi Watch Partnership to discuss issues that crop up over Christmas.

Sgt Steve Gordon, based at Stourbridge police station, said: "As a partnership we meet every month to discuss issues relating to the taxi industry and how driver safety across the borough can be increased."

"The first aim for us was to build on relationships between drivers and the police and I can happily say that this has happened."

Police say drivers often fall victim to passengers who do not agree a fair or run off without making payment, and sometimes arguments can happen over fares.

Taxi Watch chairman Shahzad Saleem said: "It is important that we work together to raise awareness and ensure the safety of our private hire and taxi drivers across the Dudley borough." Sgt Gordon added: "Dudley police will not tolerate abuse or violence against our drivers." The Taxi Watch Partnership in Dudley has been running since 2010.

Cashing in on old cans

SISTER recycling firms in the Black Country will be busy in the new year processing aluminium drinks cans sold over the festive season.

Mason Metals, Woods Lane, Brierley Hill and Halesowen Metals, Vernon Road, Blackheath, are regional collectors for Europe's largest aluminium can recycler Novellis. In the summer Halesowen Metals received about 100,000 cans from V festival party goers.

Cans sold by waste firms, clubs, charities and the public are processed and baled by the firms.

Solicitors' songs

A GROUP of solicitors have won a singing contest held to raise cash for a Midland hospice.

The Thurst Chorus, starting event at Kidderminster Town Hall, which generated £1,400 for the town's Kemp Hospice. Their medley of songs from Les Miserables won the judges over.

Fuel prices keep down festive-time visits

HIGH fuel and transport costs mean people will have been making fewer visits to family and friends this Christmas, a motoring group is claiming.

An estimated 4.25 million Britons are expected to travel abroad for the holiday period.

But a survey of those staying in the UK suggested 22 per cent would not see as many loved ones as normal due to high petrol prices.

Nineteen per cent said the cost of bus and rail travel meant they were not making trips, while 16 per cent said

expensive air fares were a barrier to travel. Miranda Schunke, spokesperson for breakdown company Green Flag, which carried out the survey, said: "Spilling fuel and travel costs are set to have a real impact on some friends and families getting together over Christmas."

Pockets

"The festive season burns a big enough hole in family pockets as it is, so it's no surprise that public transport and fuel costs have tipped the balance for many festive celebrations this year."

The AA has said it expects up to 18 million cars will take to the roads over the holiday period.

The Highways Agency, which is responsible for England's motorways and major A-roads, said it had planned to complete more than 500 miles of roadworks before Christmas, while a further 60 miles will be suspended until January 3.

The 4.25 million figure for those Britons spending Christmas and New Year overseas covers the period from December 16 to January 3 and compares with under four million for the festive

period in 2010-11.

An estimated 165,000 of those will be flying from Birmingham.

Passengers using Heathrow over the festive period were expected to take 6,000 tons of luggage each day – equivalent to the weight of 20 jumbo jets.

Heathrow's most popular destinations this Christmas are New York, Dubai, Dublin, Amsterdam and Paris.

Popular destinations for Britons travelling abroad include the Canary Islands, Cuba and Mexico.

Robber who punched victim repeatedly is sent to prison

A robber who punched his victim repeatedly before taking his wallet in a "gratuitous attack" has been handed a three year prison sentence.

Daniel Dalton, aged 21, punched Joshua Hunt in the face before raining further blows on him as his victim lay helpless on the floor.

Worcester Crown Court heard Dalton, of Drake Crescent, Kidderminster, had carried out the attack in Warndon in Worcester on October 16 this year to impress a girl he was with at the time.

The court was told Dalton had demanded Mr Hunt hand over his mobile phone but had been told by his victim he did not have one.

Dalton instead took his wallet containing a driving licence and keys which he later dropped down a drain when he discovered it had no money in it.

Dalton pleaded guilty to a charge of robbery when he appeared before the court.

He also admitted a charge of burglary at an address at Drake Crescent, Kidderminster, on December 5 this year where he stole a laptop computer after breaking a kitchen window to gain access.

Dalton also asked for another burglary at an

by Tim Spiers

empty property in Truro Drive, Kidderminster, on December 2 to also be taken into account.

The court heard the property was vacant while renovation was taking place and he had taken a copper tank and piping which he had had later sold on.

He also asked for a charge of criminal damage to be taken into account by the court.

Smashed

The hearing was told he had smashed a living room window at a home in Glastonbury Close, Kidderminster, where someone was sleeping at the time.

Dalton was sentenced to three years imprisonment for the robbery and 18 months for the lap top burglary to run concurrently.

Mr Jason Aris, defending, said: "He has asked for the one burglary matter and the criminal damage to be taken into account of his own accord."

"This shows a maturity and that he wants to draw a line under his past and start behaving like an adult in the future."

Fizzy Fizzogs get ready for a new tour



Black Country comedy group The Fizzogs – from left, Sue Hawkins, Jacky Fellows and Deb Nicholls – who have lined up a new show for 2012.

THE BLACK COUNTRY'S finest are going back on the road for another comedy tour of fun and frolics.

Fizzog Productions, otherwise known as trio Jacky Fellows, Sue Hawkins and Deb Nicholls, will embark on a new tour in February.

The 50 Per Cent Funnier Comedy Tour will feature many of the in-

imitable personalities, previous sell-out shows, including The Ode Folk, Mags and Barb, the School Kids, Wayne Kerr and compere Barbara Nice (aka TV's Janice Cornolly).

And new to February's show is the Burlesque Dance Troup, said to blend some Black Country grit with exotic, flirty and feisty choreography.

As part of the tour The Fizzogs will perform at Netherton Arts Centre on February 10 and 17, as well as at Newhampton Arts Centre on February 24 and 25.

Tickets cost £15 and are available from the two venues.

Visit www.fizzogtheatre.co.uk for more information.

NEWS in brief

Three boys admit to crime spree

THREE teenagers joined in a four-hour crime spree which included pulling driver from their vehicles in broad daylight and robbing people in the street, a court heard. An 81-year-old driver was one of the victims on September 28.

A 14-year-old from Dudley and a 15-year-old from Pensnett admitted four robberies. Another 15-year-old from Brierley Hill pleaded guilty to a robbery.

The case at Wolverhampton Crown Court was adjourned for reports.

Appeal to help stray animals

A BLACK Country animal hospital is urging residents to donate food for stray cats and dogs over the festive period.

Rosewood Animal Hospital, Birmingham New Road, Coleley, stages the collection every year to support charities in the area.

People are asked to donate pet food along with other items such as blankets which are then passed on to a number of animal charities.

Villagers raise cash for chairs

VILLAGERS have raised more than £2,000 to buy new chairs for the parish hall.

The 56-year-old building in Hartlebury, near Kidderminster, is being modernised with a new kitchen, windows and central heating but there was no cash available to replace the chairs. So a Sponsor-a-Chair campaign was held and within days, cash came from more than 80 families.

Waste scheme is re-launched

A garden waste collection scheme run for residents in Wyre Forest will relaunch after a winter break in March.

It costs householders £31 for nine months of fortnightly collections. More than 1,200 residents in the district have joined the scheme. It has helped the local authority recycle 350 tons this year.

Free car parking

SHOPPERS can park in council-run car parks for free over Christmas in Wyre Forest. In Kidderminster, Stourport and Bewdley parking is free after 4pm until January 2.

MOT
£27.99
with this advert
FREE RE-TEST
Green Garage, Unit 2a Station Road,
(rear of Gold Cue Snooker Club), Blackheath, B65 0LJ
0121 559 6001

B&D
BLINDS
Vertical, Venetian,
Awnings and
Roller Blinds
● 12 Month Guarantee
● All made to measure -
Supply and Fit
● Washable Blinds Available
● Friendly, Personal Service
● Full Range of Colours
0121 421 1000 • 07956 416016
153 CASTLE ROAD WEST, OLDBURY B68 0EL

safe **PLUMB-FORCE**
- Specialists In Domestic Heating/Plumbing
- Central Heating With 7 Rads From **£1900**
- Combi For Combi Change **£900**
- Power Flushing **£240**
- Tank System To Modern Combi From **£999**
- Bathrooms From **£350**
- Landlord Certificates **£40**
- Emergency Call Outs 24/7
Special Offer!
7 Year Parts & Labour Warranty on all Worcester Bosch Installations
5 year workmanship warranty and 5 year warranty on boilers
*** We will beat any other genuine quote ***
All work carried out by qualified engineers
Tel: 01384 351085 Mob: 07506 704749 / 07875 098621
www.plumbforce1.co.uk

M & H FIREPLACES
RETAILER OF THE YEAR
valor
OPEN THURSDAY
5TH JANUARY
WITH MANY NEW
YEAR BARGAINS
OPEN 5 DAYS. CLOSED WEDNESDAY & SUNDAY
Visit our showroom at:
Forge Lane, Cradley Heath, Halesowen, B64 5AL
(Opposite Cradley Bus and Train Station)
Telephone: 01384 345400

thechronicle

THE BEST
OF PETER
RHODES

I TAKE my hat off to the reader who has collected no fewer than 53 peculiar phrases used by weather forecasters over the past couple of years. We all need our hobbies. First out of the collection:

- * "Mildly offensive showers."
- * "A seedbed for more snow."
- * "Nuggets of brightness."

□□□□□□□□

JOHN Masefield's Sea-Fever must be one of the most parodied of all poems. This version, fit for any cold, wet winter's day, comes from a reader: "I must down to the café again For a cup of tea and a bun And all I ask Is the toast is hot And the butter's on the run."

□□□□□□□□

AND lo, the seasons turn. The turkey vanishes, the sprouts repeat and Christmastide gives way to Thomsontide, the festival of booking summer holidays. Over the Xmas break I happened upon a DVD I was given this time last year, a compilation of my father's family cine films from 1961 to 1967. I had never watched it before.

Great God, we had some awful hols. In flickering 8mm, three small Rhodes boys, wrapped in anoraks against the chill of an English heatwave, clamber morosely over the rocks at Woolacombe, pausing occasionally to whack each other with long, leathery fronds of seaweed. When people tell you they made their own entertainment in the old days, this is what they mean. The high point of that holiday was watching Hawker Hunters flying over to bomb the Torrey Canyon (ask your grandfather).

Ten years after Woolacombe, we discovered a place called Menorca and never looked back.

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

Closures consultation deadline is extended

JUST under 160 people have so far filled in a questionnaire about controversial plans to shut a string of police stations across the West Midlands overnight.

Helen Cartwright

The force wants to shut 12 stations - including Wednesfield, Dudley, Stourbridge, Halesowen and Bloxwich - between 6 and 10pm and redeploy staff to contact centres or front line duties.

The proposal is part of the battle by West Midlands Police to save £126 million over the next four years in a bid to manage government cuts in funding.

A public consultation into the plans was due to come to an end by December 31 but bosses have now extended the time people have to put forward their views until January 15.

New figures released by the force show 10 people have emailed to have their say and 1,410 people have visited the website to read about the plans while 157 have filled in the questionnaire about access to services.

Two protest petitions with a total of nearly 4,000 signatures urging a rethink have also been handed into police chiefs at a meeting into the plans.

Bosses said once the consultation is finished they

will consider all feedback balanced against the results of their analysis of demand levels in order to be able to make a final decision.

Officials say a number of people have raised concerns that the change in opening hours will mean the closure of the station which they say is not the case.

Changing

Assistant Chief Constable Sharon Rowe said: "We want to reassure people that nothing is changing to where officers work from and that these proposed changes will not impact on the way we work with local communities."

Dudley North MP Ian Austin has handed in a 2,000-strong petition, pleading for Dudley police station to be spared. Another petition with 1,900 signatures calling for Bloxwich police station to stay open 24 hours a day and supported by a letter from Walsall North MP David Winnick has also been presented to officers.

Disco dancers get dazzling



Chelsea Rist, 12, and Aimee Rowe, five, from the Touch of Class dance school

TWO YOUNG dancers have collected honours at a national disco dancing contest on the hallowed dance floor of Blackpool's Tower Ballroom.

Chelsea Rist, aged 12, and five-year-old Aimee Rowe, both from Dudley, scored success in their categories at the Disco Kid competition.

Both practise at the Touch of Class dance school run by Anna Jones at the Cherry Tree Centre, in Russells Hall Road, Dudley.

Aimee won the under six category while Chelsea made the final of the under-14s section out of 200 children from across the country and as far afield as Norway.

Principal Anna Jones said: "They have both done so well and we are very proud."

"We are very pleased to be flying the flag for Dudley in these competitions."

Medic is trapped in her car by crash

A PARAMEDIC had to be freed from her rapid response car following a crash with another car while on the way to a job.

She suffered minor injuries in the smash at the junction of Comberton Road and Chester Road North, Kidderminster, last week.

The rapid response vehicle is believed to have been on blue lights and sirens at the time of the collision.

It was on its way to a medical incident at a house in the area at the time.

An ambulance was already en route to the same job and that crew was able to deal with the situation. The injured paramedic, who was driving the rapid response vehicle, was trapped in the car and fire crews were called to help free her. West Midlands Ambulance Service said an investigation into the cause of the smash.

Plan for homes

FORMER garden land in Dudley which has become a dumping ground is set to be transformed into two houses. An application has been submitted for the site on Pool Street, Woodseton. As well as the homes, it would include a drive, gates and parking.

Floristry
Dance
Crafts
Gardening
Languages
Music

learn

History
Drama
Arts
Family learning
Child care
Cooking
Yoga
Pilates
Fitness
Exercise

Healthy living
Aromatherapy
Computers
Nail art
Cake decoration
ESOL
Literacy
Numeracy
Genealogy
Culture
Photography

Dudley
Metropolitan Borough Council

Adult and community learning at

Leasowes Community College

Kent Road, Halesowen

Courses starting in January 2012

include:

- Computer - internet and e-mail
- Jewellery making for beginners
- Pottery • Yoga • Mandarin
- Black Country Crafts • Art - pastel work
- Guitar • Photography • Drawing and painting
- Watercolour painting • Holiday French
- Latin American dance • Computer - beginners
- Craft - polymer clay • Mixed media painting
- Genealogy - tracing your family history

Open evening

Get fit for the New Year

Monday 9 January 6:00pm to 8:30pm

Come along to our open evening to meet the tutors and join in our free activities.

- Polymer clay demonstration
- PCT get cooking demonstration
- Watercolour and mixed media art demonstration

Have a go at

- Latin American Dance
- Pilates • Yoga

For further information about the courses and course costs* please contact Anna Fusco on 01384 816587 or e-mail anna.fusco@dudley.gov.uk

*you may be eligible for a concession if you are in receipt of benefits

WINTER OFFER

Best For Less!



DEAL DIRECT
WITH THE
MANAGER

SEALED UNITS
REPLACEMENT
AVAILABLE

**6 Windows &
2 Doors Only**
£2999
(terms and conditions apply)
including fitting and VAT

- Your local well established business offering top quality products and service
- No payment until completion
- Call us now for a great deal on your new windows and doors
- Visit our new showroom
- If you want quality, value and service it has to be Hasbury

Hasbury Windows Ltd

9 Halesowen Road, Halesowen,
West Midlands B62 9AA

0121 421 7001

Our Showroom is opposite Stag & Three Horseshoes

Mon-Fri 8 am-5 pm

Sat 10 am-2 pm

Phone lines open 9 am until 9 pm



Beware of bogus callers

RESIDENTS across Dudley are being urged to beware of bogus callers over the festive period.

Dudley Council's home safety service has reminded people to be extra cautious when inviting strangers into their homes over the festive season, as distraction burglaries often increase at this time of year.

The service, which provides practical home safety advice and support to vulnerable people, is working in partnership with West Midlands Police to offer tips.

Councillor David Vickers, cabinet member for adult and community services said: "Distraction burglars and bogus callers aim to deceive and steal from the most vulnerable members of our community."

"If we arm ourselves, our friends and our neighbours, with information on how to outsmart these individuals they might think twice before targeting homes in Dudley." The council hotline - 01384 812045 - for reporting incidents.

Merry Hill praise

THE MERRY Hill Shopping Centre at Brierley Hill has been ranked eighth in the latest index of the UK's top indoor shops complexes. Bluewater, Kent, was top in the Trevor Wood Associates table for the fourth quarter of 2012. Second was the Metro Centre, Gateshead, with Merry Hill owner Westfield's Stratford City, third.

Joining up was best thing I've done – modest marine

WHEN Robert Jacomb visited a recruitment centre for the Marines he only intended to pick up a few leaflets but was so impressed he signed up straight away.

The former labourer was just a few weeks shy of his 18th birthday and wondering what to do with his life when he was inspired by a friend to look into joining the armed forces.

And Robert, now 20, who has just returned from his first tour of duty in Afghanistan, says it was the "best decision" he had ever made.

It is also one which has helped to save the lives of not only Robert's own platoon, J Company 42 Commando, but also members of other teams serving abroad.

He has been assigned one of the toughest jobs in the forces – a point man responsible for leading patrols while scouring the ground with a metal detector to hunt for improvised explosive devices.

And earlier this year Robert, from Gornal Wood, found his skills put to the ultimate test when members of another patrol were hit by an explosive device.

His platoon was just 100 metres away and he quickly and calmly located a safe path so his team could offer assistance.

Two men were killed in

by Lee Watton

the explosion but the platoon was able to help the survivors and evacuate them to safety by helicopter.

And 14 hours later he was called into action again after another patrol was hit.

This time Robert led his own team safely through a minefield to rescue members of the platoon who had been hurt.

The former pupil of Red Hall Primary and Ellowes Hall schools, Gornal, has now received an award honouring his bravery.

Surprise

The modest marine says many people are surprised when he tells them his job.

"When I was at school I wasn't particularly into sports or anything physical," he said.

"When I tell my former teachers what I do now they are always surprised."

"They remember me as this shy young man. I was always more into things like motocross."

His mother Lynn says his family was proud of his achievements and his brother Tom, 16, now plans to follow in his footsteps.

It's a cracker! Festive fun for brothers



Brothers Rory and Samuel Hartland, from Kingswinford, with Christmas crackers they made

CHILDREN got into the Christmas spirit by making their own crackers at Kingswinford Library.

The youngsters used cardboard tubes, crepe paper and glitter to create their own designs. Library assistant Jane Handley printed some jokes off the internet for them to include in the crackers.

Staff are now planning a new year craft session, where children can make their own gold and silver crowns on New Year's Eve from 10am to 11am.

Mrs Handley said: "The children all enjoyed themselves."

It was good to get them in the mood for Christmas. They all took library books out as well so it was great to encourage them to read."

NEWS in brief

Pensioner, 80, pulled from river

FIREFIGHTERS rescued a pensioner from the River Severn after he fell in at Stourport Marina. Crews from Stourport and Kidderminster were called to Sandy Lane last week to help the unnamed 80-year-old man.

Kidderminster firefighter Jimmy Papworth, said they laid ladders across the river and hauled the man out. "He was treated by the ambulance crew but as far we know he was fine," he added.

Students sign pledge on abuse

ALMOST 1,200 students in Wyre Forest and Hagley have signed a pledge not to allow domestic abuse to become part of their life.

Police Community Support Officer Vanessa Halford has been visiting high schools asking students to make the pledge: These Hands Are Not For Hurting. They agreed not to be part of the small minority who commit domestic abuse and signed a scroll. Students were able to find out more about what domestic abuse and how to get help.

Probe on death

POLICE investigating a suspected arson attack in which a man died have started a full forensic examination. Andrew Heath, 52, died at his flat in Chedworth Close, Worcester, on December 14.

RYDALE

CELEBRATING OVER 31 YEARS

WINDOWS & CONSERVATORIES, PORCHES ORANGERIES, FASCIAS & SOFFIT BOARDS

• SUPPLIED & FITTED TO ALL AREAS •
• ACROSS THE MIDLANDS •

FINANCE AVAILABLE

Window, Conservatory, Porch, Fascia & Soffit News

How has Rydale built up an excellent reputation?

It's simple, customers' satisfaction and quality. The quality of Rydale's product, the quality of all Rydale personnel and the unbeatable service given to the public is second to none. No wonder Rydale has so many satisfied customers, just look at the facts. Every window and conservatory is custom made to the most rigorous quality standards you will find in the industry.

No other company in the area has more experience and know how than Rydale, that's why we have been in business for more than 30 years. Rydale Windows security features make our windows super safe. We have a wide range of products on display at our purpose built 40,000 sq. ft. showrooms and factories situated in Long Lane, Halesowen.

Our window and conservatory advisors are available in our showrooms weekdays from 9.00 am to 5.30 pm and Saturday 9.00 am to 4.00 pm. At Rydale we feel that it is very important to see products on display before you make your final decision to purchase. We invite you to come into our showrooms to view all our products available, the showrooms are here for you the customer.

At Rydale we do not take any deposits or stage payments, you only pay when you are fully satisfied. Rydale has been a trusted brand in our area for over 30 years. If we give you a guarantee we will always be here to honour it. Can that be said of any other company in the area? Rydale also offer a Supply Only service on all products including free delivery.

AT RYDALE WE CARE ABOUT THE CUSTOMER, SPEND YOUR MONEY WISELY.
VISIT OUR SHOWROOMS, WE ARE HERE FOR YOU THE CUSTOMER

WINTER SALE NOW ON

Visit our Showroom & Factories for immediate quotations



RYDALE SERVICES
WINDOW & DOOR REPAIRS

CONSERVATORY REPAIR SPECIALISTS

- LOCKS
- SEALED UNITS
- GASKETS
- SEALANT
- HANDLES
- FASCIA & GUTTERING

Telephone: 0121 559 4211
Long Lane, Blackheath, Halesowen
www.rydalewindows.co.uk

MASSIVE DISCOUNT

ON ALL ORDERS PLACED
NOW FOR JANUARY
INSTALLATION

SUPPLY ONLY WINDOWS & CONSERVATORIES
MASSIVE DISCOUNTS

You are invited to visit one of
the largest Conservatory and
Window Showrooms in the UK

Opening Hours Thurs 29th & Fri 30th Dec 10am - 4pm, Sat 31st Dec 9am - 3pm, January 1st CLOSED, January 2nd 10am - 3pm.

FREEPHONE : 0800 917 6060

Long Lane, Blackheath, Halesowen, B62 9LS www.rydalewindows.co.uk

thechronicle

Ram-raid hits computer shop

COMPUTER games and DVDs were among the haul which was taken during a ram raid at Blockbuster in Stourport High Street.

Thieves used a white Peugeot Boxer drop-side lorry to back into the front display window of the store, completely smashing it before getting in and raiding the shop stealing video games and DVDs.

Two of the raiders, who were wearing dark clothing, then took wheelie bins inside the store and started loading them up with the stolen goods.

Only one of the wheelie bins was taken from the scene as the raiders drove off the wrong way down the High Street, which is a one-way street.

They were heading towards Areley Kings.

The raid happened early on December 20. More than 100 computer games were later recovered where they had been dumped at Larford Lane, Astley, about two miles from Stourport.

It is believed the thieves sorted through the stolen goods before transferring to another vehicle.

They then abandoned the raid truck in Pearl Lane, about half a mile away from Larford Lane. It had been stolen the previous day from Shirley, Solihull.

Junction

The wheelie bins had been taken earlier from Areley Common Road and rubbish from one of them was found emptied at the junction with Hermitage Way.

Pe Lee Wycherley, who is investigating, said:

"We will be carrying out house-to-house inquiries in the area to see if anyone saw or heard anything connected with this."

"We urgently need to speak to anyone who may have noticed suspicious activity in the area, saw any vehicles in Larford Lane in unusual circumstances, or saw the white flatbed lorry - registration BG5 80PN - being driven into or away from Stourport."

"A resident called us after hearing the window being smashed at Blockbuster and we would also like to hear from anyone else who may have been disturbed and who could have seen any part of the incident."

Any witnesses or anyone with information about the raid can contact Pc Wycherley can be contacted on 0300 333 3000, quoting 32-S-201211.

Heritage trains steam to record with Santa trips

MORE THAN 200,000 people have so far taken a trip on the Severn Valley Railway this year, new figures show.

And more than 30,000 seats have been sold for the special Santa-themed trips.

They have been a sell-out with all the places on the pre-Christmas luncheon and dining trains, as well as the Christmas carol trains, being booked.

It is the first time bosses at the steam heritage line, from Kidderminster to Bridgnorth, can remember that happening.

Services manager David Mee said: "We haven't hit figures like these at any previous Christmas this century - and probably for a very long time before that."

"It's usually the case that our first Santa trains in early December are slow to sell and

the last ones in the late afternoons generally have a few spare seats. But this year every single seat was snapped up - for the last three weeks, we've had no tickets left to sell - it's been amazing."

"The statistics simply reinforce our belief in two things - firstly, when it comes to seeing Santa, nothing can compete with the nostalgic atmosphere of a live steam train to take you there. And secondly, even when the chips are down and family budgets are tightly stretched, people will sacrifice many things - but not their children's enjoyment at Christmas."

Bosses said they had already beaten the planned passenger figure of 205,000 for the year, and said with the eight days of festive trains, the final figure could exceed 213,000.

SMEG • HOTPOINT • BEKO • CDA • RANGEMASTER • LG

KING OF DOMESTIC APPLIANCES

BORSHCH

CLEARANCE CENTRE

www.borshchelectric.co.uk

Email us at dudley@borshchelectric.co.uk

PEARTREE LANE, DUDLEY, DY2 0QU 01384 571879

SMEG • HOTPOINT • BEKO • CDA • RANGEMASTER • LG

NEW YEAR SPECIALS

<p>Chest Freezers From £59.99 Under Counter Fridge and Freezers From £89.99</p> <p>Tall Larder Fridge From £149.99</p> <p>Washing Machines From £149.99</p> <p>Dishwashers From £149.99</p> <p>Built In Double Ovens From £259.99</p> <p>Range cookers new and boxed from £499.99 Gas range cookers with FSD • Limited stock 2 year parts and labour guarantee</p>	<p>Tumble Dryers From £99.99</p> <p>Reduced Now from only £139.99</p> <p>Fridge Freezers From £149.99</p> <p>Free Standing Gas/Electric Cookers From £169.99 NEW AND BOXED 2 year parts and labour guarantee</p> <p>Eye Level Gas Cookers From £275 F.S.D NEW AND BOXED FULL MANUFACTURERS GUARANTEE</p> <p>Samsung frost free fridge freezer with built in new boxed 2 year parts and labour guarantee £499.99 RL58PEMH RL58GPEBP</p>
--	---

Technic Fully Integrated Dishwasher New and Boxed only £225

Smeg 90cm Range Cookers from **£999.99**
with 2 year parts and labour guarantee
Taps from **£29.00**

Cooker Hoods from **£29.99**
Microwaves from **only £29.99**
Gas/Electric Hobs from **only £49.99**
Sink and Tap Packs from **£89.99**

Haier Under Counter Fridge/Freezers 2 year parts and labour guarantee New and boxed from **£129.99**

Hoover Refrigeration New and Boxed With Full Manufacturers Guarantee From **Only £159.99**

Oven and Hob Pack Sets New and Boxed With Full Manufacturers Guarantee From **Only £259.99**

Samsung Built In Fan assisted oven.
New and Boxed 2 yr Parts and Labour Guarantee from **£239.99**

Smeg Dishwashers. 2 yr Parts and Labour Guarantee. New and Boxed now **only £199.99**

Baumatic Fully Integrated Dishwasher
New and Boxed. 5 Yr Parts & 2 Yrs Labour Guarantee **only £249.99**

Beko Frost Free Fridge Freezer White. New and Boxed. Full Manufacturers Guarantee from **only £259.99**

BEKO Integrated Washer. New and Boxed with Full Manufacturers Guarantee. **Only £289.99**

Samsung Fridge Freezers. 2 yr Parts and Labour Guarantee New & Boxed from **only £259.99**

Smeg Dishwasher • 5 yr Parts and Labour Guarantee. New and Boxed. From **only £299.99**

American Style Fridge Freezer from **only £399.99**

Homeking 1000 spin washing machine new and boxed. 2 yr Parts and Labour Guarantee. **only £175.00**

Trade Prices on all CDA Appliances
Now with 2 year Parts and Labour Guarantee
Many more Special Offers available in Store
Members of RETRA
Pictures for illustration only

DELIVERY AND FITTING SERVICE AVAILABLE
ALL OUR PRODUCTS ARE FULLY WARRANTED

Dudley Store
PEARTREE LANE
PEDMORE RD.
MERRY CENTRE

HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM ALL THE STAFF AT BORSHCH

NORMAL OPENING: Monday-Saturday 9.30am-6pm, Sunday 10am-4pm

NEW YEAR OPENING: Sat 31st 9.30am-4pm Sun 1st Closed Mon 2nd 10am-4pm

ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED
Also at Upper Trinity Street, Bordesley, Birmingham B9 4EG TEL: 0121 773 6361

HAVE IT YOUR WAY SALE

Sale starts 2nd January 11 am sharp

CLEARANCE CENTRE UPSTAIRS NOW OPEN

• Cabinets • Dining • Mirrors • Pictures • Pine • Carpets • Beds
• Flooring • Rugs • Lamps • Lighting • Leather Suites • Fabric Suites
• Bedroom • Occasional • Ornaments • Beds • Sofas • Sofa Beds • Kids
Furniture • Bunk Beds • All types of Beds, metal, wood, leather

BELLISSIMO FURNITURE EMPORIUM

01902 409700

370 BILSTON ROAD, WOLVERHAMPTON, WEST MIDLANDS, WV2 2NW
www.bellissimofurniture-emporium.com
e-mail sales@bellissimofurnitureemporium.com

NEXT TO PRIESTFIELD METRO, ON THE A41, FREE PARKING
OPEN 11AM - 4PM
MON - SAT 10AM - 6PM

NEW YEAR SALE

NOW ON TYRES

UP TO 30% OFF

	WAS	NOW
155/70R13 T Budget.....	£39.95	£35.68
175/65R14 T Firestone Multihawk.....	£66.25	£49.69
205/55R16 V BF Goodrich G-Grip.....	£87.85	£61.50
225/40R18 Y Bridgestone RE050A XL.....	£152.85	£123.08
225/45R17 W Marshal KH35 XL.....	£91.45	£73.16

GOOD YEAR • MICHELIN • DUNLOP • BRIDGESTONE • PIRELLI

Advertised fully fitted tyre prices are 'complete' offers & as such only valid inclusive of VAT, valve, balance & tyre disposal

FREE 10-Point Winter Check

including FREE Screen Wash

JUST CALL IN

SERVICING 20% OFF

WAS £75 NOW FROM ONLY **£60**

Service details on request or see online

EXHAUSTS 20% OFF

Punto 1.2 8v, 16v 99 on (TUB/F782) WAS £79.11 NOW ONLY **£54.68**

REAR BOXES FITTED UP TO 30% OFF

PLUS SAVE £££'s ON BRAKES • CLUTCHES • SUSPENSION • AIR CON RE-GAS

MOT 20% OFF

WAS £40 NOW ONLY **£32**

BATTERIES 20% OFF

3 year warranty Most Fords, BMW3, Astra & more 075E WAS £77.84 NOW ONLY **£62.27**

We promise to beat any competitor's substantiated quote for comparable products and services. Even if you buy from us and then find a lower price locally within 7 days, we guarantee we'll refund the difference PLUS 10%

BLACKHEATH

0121 559 8766

SYDNEY HOUSE, LONG LANE, B62 9JZ

OPEN: MON-FRI 8.30-6.00 SAT 8.30-5.00 SUN 10.00-4.00

www.f1autocentres.com

ALL ADVERTISED PRICES INCLUDE VAT & APPLY TO RETAIL CUSTOMERS ONLY. ALL OFFERS SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. THESE OFFERS CANNOT BE TAKEN IN CONJUNCTION WITH ANY OTHER OFFERS. BOOK BY 31ST JAN 2012 TO SECURE THESE PRICES.

LETTERS

thechronicle

Borrowers have a responsibility

IT HAS just been announced more control is going to be put in place in regard to mortgages. However, control has been in existence since mortgages started.

By this I mean the purchaser has always had control as it is they who must decide if repayments are affordable.

Houses should not be seen as investment but as a place in which to live. Where people have to move ie. because a job has moved, does change the situation slightly, but too many people have jumped on the bandwagon of moving more upmarket and as a consequence of

this, lenders have relaxed their rules to accommodate this.

However, the choice must still come down to the borrower. If the amount to be repaid is not affordable and a decision to move for the sake of moving is made, then surely it is right to decline the loan. Building Societies and other lenders are in business to make money, not to act as charitable institutions. This continuing quest to make money by buying and selling of houses as an investment has fuelled the inflation of house prices meaning the lowest paid may never get on the property ladder.

One only has to look at the greed in

regard to land prices when parcels of land are sold for development. This continuing upward spiral is a fool's paradise and Joe public is the fool. Many houses have been pulled down so new estates of "affordable housing" could be built. However, it was proved some years ago that old and dilapidated houses could be brought up to date far more cheaply than demolition.

Everything is done in the name of profit. If we are honest, we must each look at ourselves to see why this situation has occurred, not blame others.

LEN HALES
Halesowen Road

Dock the strike pay this year not next

RE: COUNCIL staff strikers, won't be docked a day's pay until January 2012.

I find it difficult to believe council managers were unable to find out which council employees were going on strike on November 30, by the time staff timesheets were handed into payroll, for December payday. Managers knew when the strike was to be held. I feel if a member of staff was on strike on November 30, they should have had it docked from their December payday.

All staff knew this would affect their December pay day, so to avoid a day's pay docket. If you could not afford to lose a day's pay because it is Christmas, one should not have gone on strike in the first place. Simple really.

ROBERT PARSONS
Cradley Heath

LETTERS to the Editor

POST

Dudley Chronicle, Chronicle
Editorial, 51-53 Queen Street,
Wolverhampton
WV1 1ES

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number of the writer. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

E-MAIL

dudleychrons@
expressandstar.co.uk

It's not nice to see you any more Brucie

IN MANY ways I have to agree with the sentiments of B Parsons regarding the Royal Variety performance but to remotely suggest the resurrection of Bruce Forsyth gives me a cold shiver. How he still gets away with his 1950 clichés and jokes is a mystery.

He should have hung up his book of gags many moons ago and not being satisfied with his exorbitant fee for hosting Strictly Come Dancing, he has now foisted upon us a Christmas CD.

Imagine, some unsuspecting grandparent discovering a copy of this in their Christmas stocking, what a thought. Although Brucie is a reasonable pianist, to suggest he was ever a good singer is a contradiction in terms.

On the other hand, Tony Bennett was a formidable performer in the 1960s but sadly at the age of 85 I think that the magic is beginning to wane and I am surprised this was the best top of the bill performer the producers could come up with.

ROY SLIMM
Dudley

Too many shops in town sell the booze

THIS week Mary Portas published her findings on the state of our declining town centre shops. It was grim reading.

However, Dudley Council has tried to help out by granting yet another alcohol permit to a new outlet in Wolverhampton Street.

If the licensing office was to check it now means that there are now no less than five off-licences in the same street, selling cut price booze all in staggering distance.

Maybe this is a new tourist ploy, when we enter Dudley from Wombourne or Wolverhampton could we be seeing "the winos" of Wolverhampton Street instead of the Wombles of Wimbledon. Will the DY1 postcode be synonymous with the liver transplant?

S WILLIAMS
Dudley

The Knights Quest

High Street, Blackheath 0121 561 5599

Public House & Entertainment Venue • Carvery & Grill

Great Bar • Great Food • Great Entertainment!

DECEMBER
FRIDAY 30TH
SIMPLY RED TRIBUTE

NEW YEAR'S EVE
PHIL COLLINS TRIBUTE
JANUARY 2012
NEW YEARS DAY
STARMAKERS
SUNDAY KARAOKE

MONDAY 2ND
SHANE'S FULL HOUSE

TUESDAY 3RD
KARAOKE WITH PREDATOR

WEDNESDAY 4TH
BENCHY'S BIG NIGHT OUT

THURSDAY 5TH
STARMAKERS KARAOKE

FRIDAY 6TH
DEVOTED TO ROCK

HAPPY HOUR!
5pm-9pm Mon-Fri 4pt Pitcher £9 (standard lager/
cider) 5 bottles for £10 (selected range)
FREE ENTRY EVERY WEDNESDAY

Find us at www.theknightsquest.co.uk



We serve until 1am on Sundays,
Midnight Monday-Wednesday, 1am Thursday, 2am Friday & Saturday
DOORS CLOSE 11.00 pm Thurs, Fri, Sat, Sun
Strictly Smart Casual • No Hats or Sportswear



Monday-Saturday
2 Course Carvery
only £4.50
GREAT STEAK & GREAT DEALS



Leekes | Winter Sale 2011



THE INNOVATORS OF COMFORT™

Sale

Stressless® comfort is now even more tempting, as this Stressless® Consul recliner in Batick cream leather with natural wood finish is now yours with immediate delivery for an irresistibly low £799. So you save £380 and enjoy the unique comfort features only found on Stressless® recliners.



Experience the ultimate in comfort for less at our Stressless® Comfort studio today or visit www.stressless.co.uk

now only
£799*
with immediate delivery
save £380

Stressless® Consul recliner

Shop online at leekes.co.uk Bilston, Great Bridge Road, West Midlands. WV14 8LB | Telephone 0845 050 8240

■ Furniture ■ Beds ■ Carpets ■ Interior Design ■ Sound & Vision ■ Conservatories, Windows & Doors ■ Kitchens
■ Accessories ■ Bathrooms ■ Fitness & Leisure Clothing ■ Lighting ■ Home Textiles ■ Fire Studio

Leekes
You're home

thechronicle

Nuisance gang sparks a crackdown at shops site

A POLICE crackdown has been launched on boy racers who have been using a Kidderminster shopping centre car park to meet up in the evenings and causing a nuisance.

Officers say concerns have been raised by the public about the noisy group which has also been blamed for littering the Weavers Wharf car park.

Officers from West Mercia Police held a joint operation with colleagues from VOSA – the Vehicle and Operator Services Agency, Wyre Forest District Council and Weavers Wharf management.

The operation was held between 6pm and 10pm on two nights recently and saw VOSA officers inspecting vehicles. In total they issued nine prohibition notices requiring defects to be rectified. Problems included

defective tyres, brake lights, and headlights, windows which were too heavily tinted and illegal number plates with letters incorrectly formed so they were difficult to read.

Weavers Wharf management also issued a banning notice. More operations are now in the pipeline.

Pc Andy Forbes of West Mercia Police said Weavers Wharf was attracting boy racers who were doing wheel spins and handbrake turns. He said: "There were some concerns about boy racers causing nuisance, anti social behaviour and litter on the car park."

"We want people to be encouraged to visit Weavers Wharf or the town centre in general in the evenings. We will therefore be carrying out more of these joint operations in the future."

Charlotte is guided to the top



Charlotte Brooks with Baroness Smith and Chief Guide Gill Slocombe at the ceremony

A YOUNG woman from the Black Country has shown she is leading the way after receiving Girlguiding UK's top accolade, the coveted Queen's Guide Award.

Wheelchair bound 23-year-old Charlotte Brooks, a learning support assistant, was presented with the honour by Baroness Smith of Basildon – herself a former Brownie – at a special ceremony held at the House of Lords in London.

Charlotte, from Sedgley, is leader of 1st Sedgley Rainbows and 9th Sedgley Guides.

Her achievements include completing her pack holiday licence – a residential qualification which allows her to take groups of younger girls on overnight trips away from home.

She has also competed in a series of equestrian events with the Riding for the Disabled Association.

She said: "In order to complete my Queen's

Guide award I organised disability-themed evenings at guides and rainbows as part of the community action.

"It helped me realise how many questions children had about this topic they had been too scared to ask."

"I've been asked by a few members of staff at work to explain to the pupils what it is like to be a person with a disability and how they could help them."

Disabilities

"This has made me realise I may know what it's like to use a wheelchair but I needed to help them understand less visible disabilities."

"Guiding has given me so many opportunities to push myself and has helped me become more confident in my own abilities – as well as giving me experiences which have helped me gain a job," she added.

MASSIVE STOCK CLEARANCE ALL MUST GO!

STARTS FRIDAY 30TH DECEMBER

Open throughout Festive period including New Year's Day



Quality hand made upholstery from under

£1,000

Open 7 days 10 am-4 pm

Marlborough Range



Breeze Range



from £199



Corner Group £899

Complete Suites £999

Brooklyn



Rio



Vienna

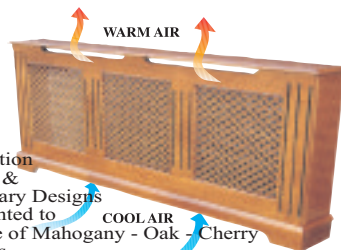


Manufacturers of Traditional Sofa's and Chairs which can be made to measure in a vast range of fabrics. Choose your own seat and back fillings to suite your comfort. All work fully guaranteed and made on site in our factory.



We also have a range of Traditional furniture which we need to clear from our showroom at give away prices.

No Reasonable Offer Refused



- Improve Air Circulation
- Traditional & Contemporary Designs
- Colour-Painted to your choice of Mahogany - Oak - Cherry
- Free Quotes
- Colour Match to your furniture if required
- All Made to Measure
- FREE Measuring service

Design Service

Special Size TV or Hi-Fi Cabinets or maybe a Dining Table or Bookcase at Sofa Style

We also specialise in bespoke pieces for furniture made to your own specification in a wide range of veneers. Call with your requirements 'You'll be surprised at the low factory direct prices'



Blaize shows talent



Teenage singer Blaize Hill, who attends the Coseley School and has got through the first round of the Britain's Got Talent auditions

A TEENAGE singer from the Black Country struck the right chord at the Britain's Got Talent auditions with a tune close to his heart.

Blaize Hill who attends The Coseley School, made it through the first round of the competition after impressing the show's production team in Birmingham.

The 13-year-old sang I Miss You by Miley Cyrus which he sang at his grandfather's funeral. He will now get the chance to sing again before the talent contest's panel of celebrity judges next year.

Blaize, who is in Year 9, said: "I feel very proud that I've made it through the auditions to Britain's Got Talent. It's an very important song to me and my family and I hope to make my grandfather proud."

Deputy headteacher Kirsty Westhead-Jones said: "We were pleasantly surprised to hear about his singing. We think he has done brilliantly."

Friend set up group to support ME sufferers

TWO friends have announced plans to set up a support group for sufferers of ME in Dudley.

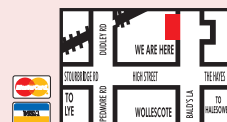
Polly Bowen and Vivien de Vere want to hear from people with Myalgic Encephalopathy – known as ME or diagnosed as Chronic Fatigue Syndrome. They are keen to speak with any carers and friends of sufferers so they can gauge the level of support for meetings.

Miss Bowen, of Kingswinford, who has been suffering from the illness for 20 years, said: "ME is a devastating and often misunderstood condition that keeps children away from school and adults out of work."

"There's no support group in this area and we'd like to hear from people interested in joining so that can be changed."

For further information call Polly on 01384 274079 or Vivien on 07967 843353 or email vivien.devere@yahoo.co.uk

Sofa Style, Chatsworth House, Hayes Lane, Lye. 01384 892018
Open 7 days a week, 10am - 4pm



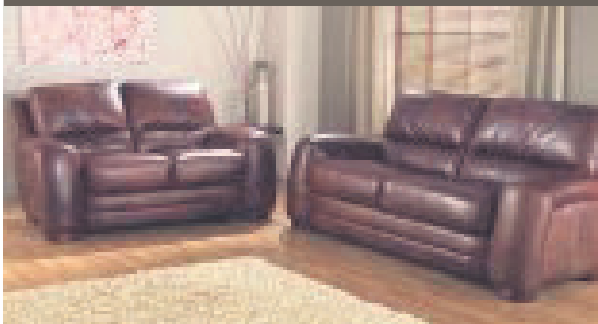
dreamworld furniture kingswinford

It's a name you can trust.
A family business, for over 30 years.

SALE NOW ON

SAVE UP TO 75%

ODD LOUNGE FABRIC & LEATHER CHAIRS TO CLEAR FROM ONLY £50



LARGE SELECTION OF
BOTH MODERN FABRIC
SUITES, LEATHER SUITES
AND CORNER UNITS
FROM ONLY £299

WE OFFER UP TO £1000 IN PART EXCHANGE FOR YOUR OLD SUITE

NOW STOCKING THE WORLD FAMOUS
LA-Z-BOY RECLINER CHAIRS

ODD BASES & MATTRESSES
TO CLEAR FROM £69



RISE & RECLINER CHAIRS FROM ONLY £295



DRAWER DIVANS FROM ONLY £299



ADJUSTABLE BEDS - LARGE SELECTION OF NASSA MEMORY FOAM BEDS INCORPORATING THE 'COOL AIR SYSTEM' FROM ONLY £295



LARGE CHOICE OF DINING AND OCCASIONAL FURNITURE FOR ONLY £39

FREE HOME DELIVERY AND FREE REMOVAL OF EXISTING FURNITURE

● THREE PIECE SUITES ● TABLES ● CHAIRS ● BEDS ● CARPETS ● MIRRORS

8 STALLINGS LANE, KINGSWINFORD DY6 7HU TEL: 01384 295660

dreamworld
furniture

reclinerworld
furniture



OPEN: MON-SAT 10 AM-5 PM SUN 10.30 AM-4.30 PM

LARGE FREE CAR PARK



Castle Aerials

DUDLEY

**The Price We
Quote Is The
Price You Pay!**

1 WEEK ONLY SPECIALS

Freesat Box & Dish £115 **£99.99** including installation (limited stock)

Digital Aerials From £85 **£65**

1 Aerial Into 4 Rooms from £160 **£125**

(All installations include new aerial, new pole and new cable)

- Plasma TV Installations
- Aerial Upgrades

Low Prices High Quality • Friendly Reliable Service
All Work Guaranteed • All Areas Covered

Talk to us today for a free,
no obligation quote on:

01384 350150



LocalMole.co.uk
Digging for the best local businesses

Stuffed with restaurants

Visit **LocalMole.co.uk**
now and find the
local business
you're looking
for in seconds



brought to you by
Express & Star

You want to buy a second-hand car.

Just something that's fuel-efficient. But it needs a bit of **power** – your neighbourhood's quite **nilly** and your groceries can be so heavy. And it's nice to have an engine that **roars**.

There are many
ways to search at

motors
.co.uk

Your search ends here.

Follow us on Twitter
Join us on Facebook



thechronicle

Theatre group is put in the frame by TV's Michael



Michael Collie helps actors from the Side by Side Theatre Company as they film a segment for their new play

MEMBERS of a learning disability theatre group had expert help when they filmed part of their new production.

Side by Side Theatre Company is preparing for its annual show, Dream On, which will be performed in June.

Two videos will be shown at the beginning and end, the first showing a TV reporter interviewing celebrities.

Group patron Michael Collie, a presenter on BBC Midlands Today, was

called in to give his opinion and help train actors to work with cameras.

He first attended a rehearsal to offer advice on camera angles and how to speak to the camera, before offering to be on set for the real thing, at Stourbridge Town Hall.

Chris Male, who plays the part of the interviewer, said he was thrilled to be directed by Michael, and artistic director Sue Wallin said: "He's always willing to help and we're very grateful to him."

Dream On is based on A Midsummer Night's Dream and, as well as a two-hour performance next June, a 10-minute snippet will be performed during the Royal Shakespeare Company's Open Stages Project in Stratford next March.

The project will see members working with RSC professionals.

Side by Side formed in 1997 and has gone on to win numerous awards. Visit www.sidebysidetheatrecompanystratfordbridge.co.uk for more information.

INSPIRATIONAL FIRES & FIREPLACES

NEW YEAR SALE Be Inspired

STARTS MONDAY 2nd JANUARY AT 11AM

Normal opening hours 10AM-6PM

DON'T MISS OUT!

SELECTED
ITEMS UP TO
50% OFF



**10% OFF
ALL PACKAGES**

VISA

MasterCard

SHOWROOM - 404-406 BEARWOOD ROAD, BEARWOOD B66 4EX
www.inspirationalfires.co.uk • email: inspirationalfires@hotmail.co.uk • 0121 429 3186

**SALE
NOW ON
OPEN
NEW YEAR'S DAY
10am - 5pm**

Did You Sleep Alright Last Night?

If not, buying a New Bed from

Dreamland's FABULOUS SALE!

Will be the BEST thing you have done for a good nights sleep.



METAL
BUNK BEDS
£159
(Mattress extra)



OTTOMAN BED
£329
(Mattress extra)

3 FLOORS OF FAMOUS
NAMES GUARANTEED
BEST PRICES

FAUX LEATHER
BEDSTEAD DOUBLES
FROM
£95
(Mattress extra)



SOFA BEDS
Various Designs
Fabulous Fabrics
FROM JUST
£399

TREMENDOUS
SAVINGS ON
4 DRAWER DIVAN SETS
DOUBLE **£499**
KINGSIZE **£529**



FANTASTIC BARGAINS THROUGHOUT THE STORE!



LARGE RANGE
OF SINGLE METAL
BEDSTEADS FROM
£49
(Mattress extra)



THE LATEST
DOUBLE METAL
BEDSTEADS FROM
£95
(Mattress extra)



DOUBLE SIZE
4 DRAWER DIVAN
SETS FROM
£299
(Headboard extra)



LARGE SELECTION
OF MATTRESSES
SINGLES from **£49**
DOUBLES from
£99

Supporters of
Mary Stevens Hospice



MASSIVE
SAVINGS ON
'HYPNOS' KINGSIZE
4 DRAWER SET ONLY
£999



PACINO
WOODEN BEDSTEAD
(VERY LIMITED OFFER)
DOUBLE **£349**
KINGSIZE **£389**
(Mattress extra)



FROM
£79

ADJUSTABLE
SINGLE SIZE BEDS
FROM
£499
(Headboard extra)

EVERYTHING RIGHT FROM ADVICE TO PRICE

Dreamland Superstore

23 Mill Street, Brierley Hill 01384 74166

PAY CASH, PAY LESS WAKE UP & FEEL GOOD

OPEN:
Mon-Fri
9.00am-5.30pm
Sat 9.00am-5.30pm
Sun 11.00am-4.30pm

MasterCard

VISA

SWITCH





Thorns Community College



Stockwell Avenue, Quarry Bank, Brierley Hill DY5 2NU
FOR UPDATED INFORMATION LOG ONTO www.thorns-s.dudley.sch.uk and click Adult Education

"MIXED WORKSHOP"™ on Wednesday 4th January 2012 - 7pm to 9pm. Choose 2 subjects from (Latin American Dance, Burlesque Dance, Adult Drums (Full Kit) and Intro to Ebay).

ALL COURSES START WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY 9TH JANUARY 2012
ALL BEGINNERS COURSES * WILL RUN 1 EXTRA HOUR FOR THE FIRST WEEK

Funded by
**Skills
Funding
Agency**

Dancing Courses	Wks	Day	Time	Price
Bollywood Dance (Begs) *6.30-9pm	10	Tues	6.30 - 8pm	£33.75
Cheeky Burlesque for Fun (Learn How To Walk In Heels) *6.30-9pm	10	Tues	6.30 - 8pm	£33.75
Tribal Fusion Belly Dancing "Basics and Beyond" (Begs Only) * 7.30 -9.30pm	10	Tues	8 - 9.30pm	£33.75
Tribal Fusion Belly Dancing (Imp to Adv)	10	Wed	7.45 - 9.15pm	£33.75
Latin American Dancing (Begs) * 6.30-9.30pm Starts 18/01/2012	10	Mon	7 - 9pm	£45.00
Salsa Dancing (Int) ASSESSMENT BY TUTOR	10	Tues	7.15 - 8.15pm	£22.50
Salsa Dancing (Adv) ASSESSMENT BY TUTOR	10	Tues	8.15 - 9.15pm	£22.50
Computer Courses				
Computers for Absolute Beginners (All Ages) * 6.30 -9.30pm	10	Mon	7 - 9pm	£47.00
E Bay for Beginners * 6.30 -9.30pm	4	Tues	7 - 9pm	£18.80
Digital Photography Beginners/Intermediate * 6.30 -9.30pm	10	Mon	7 - 9pm	£45.00
Music Courses				
Bring & Play (Whatever instrument you play) **	10	Wed	7 - 9pm	£45.00
Keyboards for Mixed Abilities (Begs -7pm -8.30pm) (Int/Adv 7.30pm -9pm)* 6 -8.30pm	10	Wed	7pm -9pm	£33.75
Guitars for Beginners * 6 -8pm	10	Wed	6 - 7pm	£22.50
Guitars for Intermediates	10	Wed	8 - 9.30pm	£33.75
Drums 4 Adults (Full Kit of Drums) * 6.30 -9.30pm	10	Wed	7.30 - 9.30pm	£45.00
Creative Crafts/ Art Courses				
Flower Arranging (Mixed Ability) * 6.30 -9.30pm	10	Mon	7 - 9pm	£45.00
Floristry For Funerals (Mixed Ability) "Special Techniques" * 6.30 -9.30pm	10	Tues	7 - 9pm	£50.00 ▲
Floristry For Weddings (Mixed Ability) "Learn Special Skills DIY" * 6.30 -9.30pm	10	Thurs	7 - 9pm	£50.00 ▲
Cake Decorating (Begs) **	10	Mon	7 - 9pm	£50.00 ▲
Cake Decorating Club (Imp)**	10	Tues	7 - 9pm	£45.00
Cake Decorating Club (Int /Adv & Sugar Craft)**	10	Wed	7 - 9pm	£45.00
Jewellery (Seed Beading Work Technique for Beginners) * 6.30 -9.30pm	10	Tues	7 - 9pm	£45.00
Learn How to Use a Sewing Machine * 6.30 -9.30pm	8	Thurs	7 - 9pm	£36.00
Sewing Skills for Improvers	10	Tues	7 - 9pm	£45.00
Learn to Face Paint Children (Ideal for Fetes and Parties) *6.30 -9.30pm	5	Thurs	7 - 9pm	£22.50
Art (For Absolute Beginners) * 6.30 -9.30pm	10	Wed	7 - 9pm	£45.00
Cooking Volunteer Project RING FOR DETAILS		TBA	TBA	TBA
Cooking For Fellas (Begs) * 6 -9.30pm	10	Tues	6.30 - 9pm	£79.00 ▲
Can't Cook, Want to Cook for Begs *10-1pm Enrol Mon 9/1/12 - Thurs 12/1/12	10	Sat	10am - 12pm	£50.00 ▲
Career Qualification Courses				
PTLLS & CTLLS -for teaching in The Lifelong learning sector)				
7307 minimum qualification for teaching adults **	10	Thurs	6 - 9pm	TBA
Level 2 Emergency First Aid at Work ** RING FOR DETAILS	2	Tues	6 - 9.30pm	£48.00
Paediatric First Aid ** (12 hours OFSTD Requirement)	4	Tues	6 - 9 pm	£60.00
Basic Food Hygiene Certificate (A must if working with food) **	2	Weds	6 - 9.30pm	£48.00
British Sign Language (price includes Unit 101 Exam fee) Starts Sept 2012	30	Wed	7 - 9pm	TBA
Start Your Own Business * 6.30 -9.30pm	5	Thurs	7 - 9pm	£22.50
Language Courses				
Holiday Spanish (Beg) *6 -8.30pm	10	Thurs	6 - 7.30pm	£33.75
Holiday Spanish (Improvers) Ideal for those who attended a 10hr course	10 9	Thurs	6 - 7.30pm	£33.75
Holiday Spanish (Int) Ideal for those who attended a 20-30 hour course	10	Thurs	7.30 - 9pm	£33.75
Holiday Italian (Beg) *6.30 -9pm Starts 22/02/2012	5	Wed	7.30 - 9pm	£16.88
English for Speakers of Other Languages -ESOL -English Conversation				
NOCN Language & Speech Certificate *10-1pm Enrol Mon 9/1/12 - Thurs 12/1/12	10	Sat	10am - 12pm	£100.00
Do It Yourself Courses				
Woodwork (Expert Advice on your own Project)	10	Mon	7 - 9pm	£45.00
Recreational Courses				
Beauty & Nail Art (Ideal for Beginners) * 6.30 -9.30pm	10	Thurs	7.30 -9.30pm	£45.00
Am I Psychic? (Begs) 6TH SENSE DEVELOPMENT *6 -8.30pm	8	Tues	6 - 7.30pm	£27.00
Intro. to a Variety of Holistic Therapies for Health & Well Being *6.30 -9.30pm	10	Mon	7 - 9pm	£45.00
All Courses start week commencing Monday 16th January 2012				
Music Courses				
Guitars for Improvers	10	Wed	7-8 pm	22.50
Language Courses				
Holiday Spanish (Improvers) Ideal for those who attended a 20hr course Starts 23/02/2012	5	Thurs	7.30-9 pm	16.88
Holiday Italian (Improvers) Starts 29/01/2012	5	Wed	6-7.30 pm	16.88
Recreational Courses				
Am I Psychic? (Int/Adv)	7	Tues	7-9 pm	31.50
Literacy and Numeracy RING FOR DETAILS		TBA	TBA	FREE

learn

'Dance for the Games' WORKSHOP

Thorns Community College

25 places available for each session.

Everyone **MUST** be up for **FUN & LAUGHTER**

Adults and Children most welcome

BEGINNERS male & female young and old welcome

TUESDAY 3rd JANUARY 2012

1HR SESSIONS TUESDAY 7 PM-8 PM & 8 PM-9 PM

FREE (places are limited) Sign Up Today

"Dance for the Games" and be one of 24,000 people from across the West Midlands learning the vibrant and energetic Punjabi dance of 'Lawk Naach'. By joining us in a discovery workshop you will learn Bhangra and Giddha dance movements as well as promoting general fitness, an active lifestyle, Team spirit and Cultural diversity. This opportunity does not stop there! The second phase of the project will involve 'performance classes' which will be open to anyone to attend. Participants will learn a dance routine which will be performed alongside 2012 other Midlanders, at a finale event in Birmingham to celebrate the lead up to London 2012. So Come On Sign Up Today!

Adult and Community Learning
learning can inspire, improve confidence and change lives

**** THERE ARE NO CONCESSIONS GIVEN ON CLUBS**

All Courses = Tuition Fee + Annual Registration Fee £6 payable in full first night of class (Prices are subject to change)

▲ Courses = Tuition Fee (including Demonstration Fee) + Annual Registration Fee £6 payable in full first night of class (Prices are subject to change)

100% Concessions Available on all courses = **EVIDENCE** required first night of class (Income Support/Pension Credits, JSA, Disability Living Allowance, Incapacity Benefit, Employment & Support Allowance & Working Tax Credits - with a household income less than £15,575)

For further Information Please Contact Kay Scampton On 01384 816243 (ext 243) or 07764 404588

FREE 'MIXED WORKSHOP'

on Wednesday 4th January 2012 7 pm to 9 pm

Choose 2 subjects from (Latin American Dance, Burlesque Dance, Adult Drums (Full Kit) and Intro to Ebay)

Pupils keep nativity tradition

A GROUP of parents rallied together to stage a nativity play for their children to perform after a Sedgley school pulled the plug on the show.

They were left disappointed when Alder Coppice School said it was not going ahead with the Christmas tradition for Years 1 and 2 for the first time this year.

So they came together to organise their own with the help of St John's Methodist Church, Blakenhall, Wolverhampton. Seventeen youngsters aged from five to seven took part in the performance.

It was held at the church on Saturday, December 17. They had just one week to learn their lines, songs and learn to

play instruments.

But they took to the stage in front of a audience of more than 60 people to bring the Christmas story to life.

Sedgley mother Claire Neale, whose six-year-old daughter Maya, took part said it had gone well. "It was really nice. It was lovely to be able to watch them perform," she said.

Mrs Neale said many parents had felt "let down" by the school's decision.

Shame

"There was nothing organised for Years 1 and 2 that the parents could come and watch which is a great shame. We feel it is a really important for the children to take part in a nativity at this time of year as it teaches them the real meaning of Christmas.

"The children increase their self confidence too, by standing in front of an audience and speaking. Most of all it's a way for parents and grandparents to share in something with the children that is magical, special and heart warming.

"These special times when the children are young, must be captured. The nativity play is a historical tradition that is too important to let go."

When contacted by the press, the school refused to comment on the decision not to hold the nativity for Years 1 and 2.

A spokeswoman, who did not wish to be named, confirmed nativities had been staged for the nursery and reception classes at the school. She said there had also been a Christmas production staged for older pupils.



Tom Watson as Joseph and Annie Gregory as Mary, both aged six, with other youngsters

Council leader sends a warning over tax freeze

DUDLEY Council will be forced to save an additional £2.8 million from its future budget if it opts to freeze council tax payments next year.

Councils nationwide can take up the offer of a grant from the Government equivalent to a 2.5 per cent council tax increase if they freeze the levy for residents.

Council leader, Councillor Les Jones, said freezing the council tax could mean bigger increases in 2013-14 but said no firm decision had yet been taken. Big cuts for 2013-14 have already been agreed.

The aim is to save a total of £35 million by that date.

Councillor Jones warned the authority would be forced to find additional savings of £2.8 million within that budget to balance the books.

"The reality is that we have still not made up our mind whether we will take up

the one-year Government grant," he said. "We know that people need a bit of help at the moment. We have to make sure it is in the best long-term interest of the borough."

But Labour opposition leader, Councillor David Sparks, went further, calling the Government's offer a "con trick".

"The problem with Eric Pickles' (Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government) offer is that it is for one year only and means that unless the Government come forward with the same offer next year Dudley taxpayers would have to pay double the bill," he said.

"It is a typical Eric Pickles con trick. It is significant that even the Conservative council is suspicious of what a Conservative government is planning."

Wyre Forest council leaders have already announced that they will be taking up the Government's offer.

Festivities blow in



On the piano is Sally Richards with pupils, from left, Oliver Preece, Molly Evers-Taylor and Lily Bloomfield

SCHOOLCHILDREN were full of Christmas cheer as they belted out traditional carols at their annual musical concert.

More than 100 pupils from Amblecote Primary School took to the stage for the performance The Key Stage 2 students, who are aged seven to 11, sang a range of carols and also performed poems.

There was also music from the school choir as well as a rendition of Jingle Bells in French by some of the older pupils.

Teacher Max Keen said the event, which is held every year at the school in School Drive, went well.

Parents and governors were invited in to watch the performances, which had been organised by teacher Claire Bowen.

The school has recently been celebrating receiving a rating of "good" from Ofsted following an inspection at the site.

Record collection by Tablers' sleigh round

A RECORD sum of more than £2,500 has been raised for charity by Stourbridge and Brierley Hill Round Table's Santa sleigh collection. Members said they were delighted.

The £2,561 will be donated to local charity Rollercoasters, which helps children from the Dudley borough who have multiple disabilities and additional physical and learning disabilities.

Group chairman Dan Saunders said everyone was pleased with the support given in the tough economic times. "The 2012 sleigh ride has again been a lot of fun and we are so grateful to everyone for your generous support and fantastic welcome on the doorstep," he said.

"We would also like to thank the players and parents of Oldswinford Football Club who came out and collected with us on many of the collections."

For HOME

LIVING • DINING • BEDROOM

Christmas & January Sale starts 27th December

OPENING TIMES:

December 31st 10am-6pm

January 1st 10am-4pm

Monday 2nd January 10am-6pm

Tuesday 3rd January 10am-6pm

Wednesday 4th January 10am-6pm

Thursday 5th January 10am-6pm

Friday 6th January 10am-6pm

Saturday 7th January 10am-5.30pm

Sunday 8th January 10am-4pm

Solid Wood Furniture Specialists

Gifts and Accessories, Mirrors/Clocks/Wall-Art

Up to 50%
off selected items

SPECIAL OFFER

Tub Chairs Cream/Brown

Faux Leather RRP £169

20 Available For £69!

Opening Times

10 am to 6 pm Monday - Saturday

10 am - 4 pm Sunday

FOR HOME, 32 LONG LANE, BLACKHEATH B62 9LS. Tel: 0121 439 1788

www.forhome-furniture.com

TRADITIONAL & CONTEMPORARY

FURNITURE & FURNISHINGS AT WHOLESALE PRICES

great furniture... great price!



"Probably one of the largest showrooms in the country"

A New Beds & Bedroom Furniture Department | A New Dining Room Department
A New Extensive Sofa Department | Brand New Carpets & Flooring Department

up to
75% OFF!

on brand name
recommended
retail prices

LAST
FEW
DAYS

Brian James have just got
EVEN BIGGER

quality where it matters...

Walsall Road, Cannock, WS11 0JJ

Telephone: 01543 570 759

www.brianjamesfurnishings.co.uk

Opening times Saturday 9am till 6pm. Sunday 11am till 4pm



GREAT
SAVINGS!



GREAT
SAVINGS!



100's of Sofas on display and
1000's in Stock, most available
FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY



sofas

Probably the largest sofa department in the country, displaying the very latest designs in leather, fabric including corners, recliners, chairs, 3+2, 3+1's, modern & traditional.

GREAT SAVINGS!



carpets

Branded carpets from: A.W., Abingdon, Wilton Royal, Brock Away, Victoria, Kosset, Cormar, Bondworth, Ryalux, Axminster, Westex and many more...

• Professional fitting service available

GREAT SAVINGS!



beds

A brand new bed department showcasing beds to suit every house & every budget. Big selection of Pocket Sprung, Open Coil, Ortho and Memory Foam beds on display.

Brands Include: Sleepzee, Cumflux, Harrison Beds, Health Beds, Slumberland, Dunlopillo, Relyon and many more...

GREAT SAVINGS!

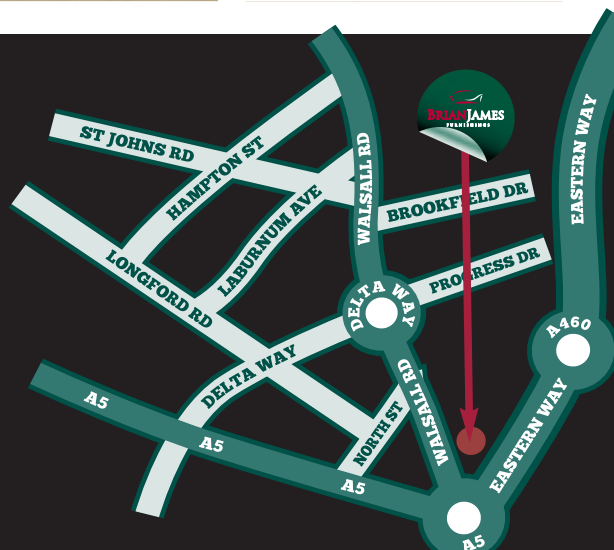
Opening times: Tuesday 20th December to Sunday 25th we are closed.
Open on Boxing Day Monday 26th December from 9am

quality where it matters...

Walsall Road, Cannock, WS11 0JJ
Telephone: 01543 570 759
www.brianjamesfurnishings.co.uk



all major credit and debit cards accepted



Medical Negligence?

No Win No Fee
You keep 100% of your compensation

- Poor Care • Dental Errors
- Misdiagnosis • Missed Fractures
- Wrong Medication • Failed Sterilisations
- Plastic Surgery Disasters

Rapid

SOLICITORS

Telephone: 0845 855 0747
or: 0121 609 1088

www.rapidsolicitors.co.uk

• Free home visits • Lines open 24/7 • Consulting offices throughout the region
We are Rapid Response Solicitors, regulated by The Solicitors Regulation Authority (Reg. No. 00512434).

thechronicle

Portillo gets on the track of another journey in rail history



Great British Railway Journeys – Series 2

Once again the former politician, turned presenter, Michael Portillo picks up his 1840 Bradshaw's Guide and heads off around Britain using his book like a Victorian satnav.

In this round of five journeys Portillo heads to the far northern Scottish Isle of Skye, travels through the Midlands and Wales to the peninsula of Holyhead, traverses the flat lands of Norfolk, finds his way through the North East of England and finally ends up travelling the southern regions of the country from London through Kent to end his run in Hastings.

Portillo with his endearing and not entirely relaxed in front of the camera manner uses the guide and the remnant of the railways to explore the history, culture and evolution of Britain.

With the help, once again, of breath-taking scenery and fantastic aerial filming Portillo opens up Britain and its Victorian history like a pop up picture book.

There are myriad gems among this delightful series such as when he reads out the address to a haggis in arguably the worst Scottish ever broadcast on TV. His journeys take him to the birthplace of the Commando regiment in a remote area of Scotland; to a chemical weapons

factory in Rhydymwyn which was "the most secret location in the world" during the Second World War and then on to the almost spooky revelation of Thomas Telford building his profile into the Ironbridge in Shropshire. He turns his hand to trying to make hand raised pork pies in Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire and creating specialist floor tiles for the houses of parliament.

Portillo shows just how much is accessible through the railways and what real treasures sometimes lie on our doorsteps should we only take the trouble to hop aboard and take a look. GBRJ II harkens back to the golden age of BBC documentaries along with the wonderfully quaint British Railway Films which if you are of a certain age will be remembered fondly.

Portillo's enthusiasm for rail travel always comes to the fore and throughout he repeatedly pays homage to the past on, which so much of modern society is built, without a hint of dullness or tedium.

This series along with the first should be a must for all railway enthusiasts and anyone who has any interest in Britain at all.

Great British Railway Journeys 2 is a five disc set and released January 9. Cert E.

Boyle's on his guard in this dark comedy

The Guard
"I can't figure out whether you are really smart or really dumb" is how the FBI agent sums up the enigma which is Sergeant Gerry Boyle of the Galway Garda, wonderfully played by Brendan Gleeson in this dark and sometimes cringeworthy gem of an Irish film.

Boyle is a policeman who follows his own code, which is highly questionable at the very least. He goes about his duties on the west coast of Ireland employing his grizzled and intolerant manner along with a subversive and offensive wit and a highly colourful way of speaking.

Boyle's life revolves around his dying mother and occasionally paying for prostitutes but he is

drawn into the world of major drug trafficking by the arrival of a black, FBI agent Wendall Everett, played by Don Cheadle.

With years of experience and an understanding of the local criminals Boyle has little interest in international drug gangs however, the more he tries to keep his distance the more he gets drawn into the dealings of the gang and the police corruption they are exploiting.

As the body count rises and he realises almost everyone around him is an ejit Boyle decides it's time he took matters into his own hands and deal with the traffickers using his unsuitable methods, with the reluctant help of Everett. As they move High Noon-like to the violent climax Boyle shows

how justice is dealt out Galway style, leaving the viewer to puzzle over the fate of the anti-hero, although all the clues are there.

There are some truly dark comic moments one of which is Boyle passing on the drug dealers' arms to a member of the IRA and where Boyle's caustic manner reduces the seasoned runner of the paramilitary group to a blithering apologetic heap for asking him stupid questions.

The Guard, Cert 15 is released Jan 16, cert 15. Special features include Behind the Scenes footage, outtakes and deleted and extended scenes.

Danny Farragher

Express & Star mna media thechronicle

KICK START YOUR NEW YEAR WITH 25% OFF Leaflet Distribution IN JANUARY!

Simply telephone
01902 319990
or email

leafletoffers@expressandstar.co.uk
to receive your discount.

Offer ends 31/1/12

Express
distribution

Part of the
Express & Star
Black Lake, West Bromwich, West Midlands B70 0QB

We make sure they get into the **RIGHT** hands!

star★extraTRAVEL



Andre Rieu and The Johann Strauss Orchestra at The O2 Arena

**December 16-17
2012**

FROM £169

- Return coach travel
- Overnight bed and breakfast accommodation
- A ticket for the concert at The O2 Arena (ticket upgrades available)
- Free time in London
- Services of a tour manager
- Single room supplement £30 (subject to availability)

Organised by Newmarket Holidays
(ABTA V787X)

The Waltz King of Europe is returning to the UK with his Orchestra to perform in concert next year at The O2 Arena in London.

Acknowledged as one of the world's greatest living musical legends, Dutch-born Andre Rieu was classically trained, and is now an accomplished violinist, an excellent conductor and a truly remarkable showman.

With his orchestra, choir and soloists, he brings a delightful and innovative approach to his concerts, recreating the atmosphere of 19th century Viennese dance halls, where audiences sway with the music, hum along and even dance in the aisles – it all happens!

During the concert you will hear music from across the star's repertoire, from his first album, 'Strauss & Co' to his latest release, 'And the Waltz Goes On'. It will be a truly wonderful experience that you'll remember for years to come.

For a brochure call (01902) 319999 (Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm), email starextra@expressandstar.co.uk or go online www.expressandstar.com/starextratavel
Please read brochure/web page for full terms and conditions

New Year's Eve

Great at
kleening*

*not so good at spelling

www.ozkleen.co.uk

Oven & BBQ Wipes - available from **TESCO**

BBC1

BBC2

ITV1

Channel 4

Channel 5

Digital

#*%!!
#*%!!
#*%!!

Australians swear by it

www.ozkleen.co.uk
Oven & BBQ Wipes - available from **TESCO**

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** New Year's Eve Saturday Kitchen. **11.30** Nigel Slater's Simple Suppers. (R) **12.00** BBC News: Regional News: Weather. **12.15** Football Focus. **1.00** Formula 1: 2011 Season Review. **2.00** Film: The Pacific. (2005) Comedy, with Vin Diesel. **3.30** A Question of Sport. (R) **4.00** Final Score. **5.10** BBC News: Regional News: Weather. **5.30** Comic Relief 2011: What a Cracker. (R)

6.25 Winter Wipeout.

Richard Hammond and Amanda Byram present a winter-themed version of Total Wipeout, which sees the contestants tackling an all-new snow-covered course.

7.25 FILM: Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End. (2007) The swashbuckling rogues join forces with old foe Barbossa to rescue Captain Jack Sparrow from the land of the dead. Adventure sequel, with Johnny Depp.

10.00 BBC News: Weather. **10.20 Match of the Day.** Gary Lineker presents highlights of today's Premier League clashes, including Swansea City v Tottenham Hotspur and Manchester United v Blackburn Rovers.

11.40 The National Lottery Saturday Night Draws. OJ Borg announces the all-important numbers. **11.50 New Year Live 2011.** Jake Humphrey welcomes in 2012.

12.15 Lee Mack Going Out Live: National Lottery Update. **1.15** Michael McIntyre's Christmas Comedy Roadshow. (R) **2.15** Weatherview. **2.20** BBC News.

6.00 CBeebies. **7.05** CBBC. **10.05** Film: Home on the Range. (2004) Disney animated comedy, with the voice of Roseanne Barr. **11.15** Film: First Daughter. (2004) Romantic comedy, starring Katie Holmes and Marc Blucas. **12.55** Escape to the Country. (R) **1.35** Film: Viva Knievel! (1977) Adventure, starring Evel Knievel and Lauren Hutton. **3.15** Springwatch Christmas Special. **4.45** Film: The Guns of Navarone. (1961) Second World War adventure, starring Gregory Peck.

Australians swear by it
www.ozkleen.co.uk

7.15 Flog It! From Stoke-on-Trent. (R)

8.00 Morecambe & Wise: The Show What Paul Merton Did. Paul Merton hosts a celebration of the comedy duo. (R)

9.00 Eric & Ernie. One-off drama about Morecambe and Wise's early years, from their meeting on the children's variety circuit to their first TV appearances. Victoria Wood and Jim Moir star. (R)

10.30 Parkinson, Morecambe & Wise. Michael Parkinson looks back at his 1972 interview with the comedy duo. (R)

11.15 Jools' Annual Hootenanny 2011. With Cyndi Lauper, Jessie J, James Morrison and the Vaccines.

1.30 Glastonbury Best Bits 2011. (R) **3.35** Close.

6.00 CITV: Mini CITV. **7.25** CITV. **7.55** Film: Scooby-Doo and the Alien Invaders. (2000) Animated adventure, with the voice of Jeff Bennett. **9.25** Monk. **9.30** Horrid Henry. (R) **9.45** Funnies Ever You've Been Framed! (R) **10.45** Coronation Street. **1.30** ITV News: Weather. **1.45** Film: Pride and Prejudice. (2005) Period drama, starring Keira Knightley. **4.05** Film: The Queen. (2006) Oscar-winning biographical drama, starring Helen Mirren.

6.05 Regional Programmes. **6.15** ITV News: Weather. **6.30** Harry Hill's TV Burp Xmas Special. (R)

7.00 Westlife: For the Last Time. The boys perform their greatest hits in a farewell special. (R)

8.00 The Cube. Two more contestants take on the challenge. Last in the series.

9.00 Brand New It'll Be Alright on the Night 2. Selection of TV bloopers, presented by Griff Rhys Jones.

10.00 ITV News: Weather.

Australians swear by it
www.ozkleen.co.uk

10.15 The Nation's Favourite Bee Gees Song. (R)

11.45 ITV News and Countdown to 2012.

12.05 That Was 2011: The ITV News Review of the Year. **1.05** Film: The Blues Brothers. (1980) Comedy, starring John Belushi and Dan Aykroyd; ITV News Headlines. **3.20** In Plain Sight. (R) **4.50** ITV Nightscreen. **5.55** ITV Morning News.

6.00 The Treacle People. (R) **6.10** The Hoobs. (R) **6.35** The Hoobs. (R) **7.00** GT Academy. **7.30** Extreme Sailing Series. **8.00** The Morning Line. **8.55** T4: The Big Bang Theory. **9.25** T4: The Big Bang Theory. **9.50** T4: Shipwrecked: The Island. **10.50** T4: Beyoncé Live at Roseland. **11.55** Film: Three Men and a Cradle. (1987) Comedy, starring Tom Selleck, Ted Danson and Steve Guttenberg. **1.55** Channel 4 Racing. **3.55** The Simpsons. (R) **4.25** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.55** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.25** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.55** Come Dine with Me. (R)

6.25 Come Dine with Me. (R)

6.55 4thought.tv.

7.10 FILM: Porridge. (1979)

Comedy spin-off from the TV series, with Ronnie Barker and Richard Beckinsale.

Australians swear by it
www.ozkleen.co.uk

9.00 Alan Carr's New Year Spectacular. With Jonathan Ross, David Walliams, Heston Blumenthal and JLS.

11.35 Rude Tube: Epic Christmas. Alex Zane presents the 50 greatest festive internet videos.

12.40 The Simpsons. **1.10** Film: Invasion of the Body Snatchers. (1956) Sci-fi thriller, starring Kevin McCarthy. **2.30** Southland. **3.15** St Elsewhere. (R) **4.05** Brave New World with Stephen Hawking. (R) **5.00** Brothers & Sisters. (R) **5.50** Sall Mali. (R) **5.55** The Hoobs. (R)

6.00 Milkshake! **10.00** Impossible? **11.00** World's Strongest Man 2011. (R) **12.00** Ice Road Truckers. (R) **12.55** Ben Hur. (R) **4.35** Film: 21. (2008) Premiere. Drama, starring Kevin Spacey.

6.55 5 News Weekend.

7.00 World's Strongest Man 2011. James Richardson and Caroline Pearce present heat five of the finals from Wingate University, North Carolina, where the line-up for the final was set to be decided.

8.00 TV's 50 Greatest Magic Tricks. A rundown of illusions that have stood the test of time on the small screen, featuring Penn and Teller, Derren Brown, David Blaine, Paul Daniels and new kid on the block Dynamo.**10.40 FILM: Up the Front.** (1972) A cowardly footman is hypnotised into enlisting during the First World War, and ends up being tattooed with secret German plans. Comedy, starring Frankie Howerd and Zsa Zsa Gabor.

12.25 Comedy Kings: Best of Just for Laughs. With Dara O Briain, Jack Whitehall and Louis CK. (R) **12.50** SuperCasino. Live interactive gaming. **4.00** Great Artists. Greek artist El Greco. (R) **4.25** Divine Designs. British religious art. (R) **4.50** County Secrets. Historical spotlight on scenic counties in the UK. (R) **5.00** Hana's Helpline. (R) **5.10** The Milkshake! Show. Shake has lots of fun with his new bike. (R) **5.35** Thomas & Friends. (R) **5.45** Roary the Racing Car. Flash challenges Roary to a race. (R)

12.25 Comedy Kings: Best of Just for Laughs. With Dara O Briain, Jack Whitehall and Louis CK. (R)**12.50 SuperCasino.** Live interactive gaming. **4.00** Great Artists. Greek artist El Greco. (R)**4.25 Divine Designs.** British religious art. (R)**4.50 County Secrets.** Historical spotlight on scenic counties in the UK. (R)**5.00 Hana's Helpline.** (R)**5.10 The Milkshake! Show.** Shake has lots of fun with his new bike. (R)**5.35 Thomas & Friends.** (R)**5.45 Roary the Racing Car.** Flash challenges Roary to a race. (R)

ITV2
3.45 Film: Free Willy (1993) **6.05** Film: The Polar Express (2004) **8.00** Film: Dante's Peak (1997) **10.00** Celebrity Juice: 2041 - A Juice Odyssey **11.00** Tweets of the Year

ITV3

3.45 Film: Arthur 2: On the Rocks (1988) **6.00** Agatha Christie's Poirot **7.00** A Royal Year to Remember **8.00** Agatha Christie's Poirot

ITV4

1.20 Film: The Battle of Midway (1976) **4.00** Film: Horizons West (1952) **5.45** Film: Lonely Are the Brave (1962) **8.00** Film: The Magnificent Seven Ride! (1972) **10.00** Film: Mad Max 2 (1981)

BBC THREE

7.00 Great Movie Mistakes III: Not in 3D **9.00** Most Annoying People of 2011

BBC FOUR

7.00 Birmingham Royal Ballet's Cinderella **9.00** Motown at the BBC **10.00** Edinburgh Comedy Live **11.00** Charlie Brooker's 2011 Wipe

E4

3.30 Sorority Girls **4.35** Desperate Scousewives **5.35** Scrubs **6.35** The Big Bang Theory **7.30** Happy Endings **8.00** How I Met Your Mother **8.30** The Big Bang Theory **9.00** Film: Mean Girls (2004) **10.50** The Big Bang Theory

FILM4

3.10 The Lavender Hill Mob (1951) **4.50** The Three Musketeers (1993) **6.55** Footloose (1984) **9.00** Four Lions (2010) **9.00** British Muslims form an incompetent terrorist cell and hatch a scheme to attack the London marathon. Chris Morris' satirical comedy, starring Rizwan Ahmed, Kayvan Novak, Nigel Lindsay, Adeel Akhtar, Arsher Ali, Preya Kalidas and Julia Davis. **11.00** Rushmore (1999) A student causes chaos at a private school when he develops a crush on a teacher. Comedy drama, starring Jason Schwartzman and Bill Murray.

Replace Your Tired Kitchen, Bathroom or Bedroom With A Makeover...

Did you know that, 80% of our customers are retired? Find out why they trust us for yourselves...

40% OFF
Doors and Drawers
Before 28th January

PLUS 10% OFF

All New Kitchens, Bedrooms, Bathrooms for Installations

Book your no obligation Quote Today!!

0121 550 4821 or 07726 104200

Offers cannot be combined

Laminate flooring in tile form - very classy also Quickstep

Wet Wall Panelling for bathrooms, no more grouting

Budget range of flat-pack kitchens, super 18mm, for better value and quality than any of the major retailers inclusive of soft close doors, and drawers

OVER 100 DOOR STYLES, AVAILABLE IN ANY COLOUR YOU CAN NAME

OVER 200 WORKTOP FINISHES
ALL CABINETS AND WARDROBES 18MM PRE-BUILT

ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED



Appliances: Neff, Bosch, Rangemaster, Belling, Baumatic, Hotpoint, Stoves and many more

Franke Sinks 50 Year Guarantee

What our customers say!
"...it looks like a palace..."
"...definitely recommend 'Quality Kitchens' to our friends and family..."
"...totally professional from beginning to end..."

No False Promises! No Pressure!

Homeowners...

Looking to sell?

Enhance the prospects of selling your property - stunning results for a minimum outlay

Just moved in?

Let us help to transform your property into a dream home

Decided to stay?

Fall in love again with your home - Revamp your kitchen, bedroom or bathroom and allow us to show your home's true potential

Bring us your dream pictures and we will bring them to life

CUSTOMER SATISFACTION GUARANTEED

www.qkm.org.uk

WE WILL NOT LET YOU DOWN!!

- Minimal disruption
- Free design service
- Unbeatable prices

OPEN:

Monday-Friday 9.30 am-5.00 pm
Saturday 10.00 am-2.00 pm
28th-31st Dec 10am-2pm



Quality Kitchen Makeovers Ltd
And Associated Companies

Oak Lodge Buildings, Furnace Hill
Halesowen B63 3LZ

Tel: 0121 550 4821 Mobile: 07726 104200

Terms & conditions apply to all offers

At QKM

We are dedicated to offering our customers the finest service within the home improvement market

THE GUILD OF MASTER CRAFTSMEN

Membership No A120074

'We have customers who would be more than happy to show you the excellent standard of work'



thechronicle

New Year's Day

Great at
kleening*

*not so good at spelling
www.ozkleen.co.uk
Oven & BBQ Wipes - available from **TESCO**

BBC1

BBC2

ITV1

Channel 4

Channel 5

Digital

Australians swear by it

www.ozkleen.co.uk
Oven & BBQ Wipes - available from **TESCO**

6.00 Breakfast. **8.40** Match of the Day. (R) **10.00** Winter Wipeout. (R) **11.00** Film: Mouse Hunt. (1997) Slapstick comedy, starring Lee Evans and Nathan Lane. **12.35** BBC News: Weather. **12.45** The Archbishop of Canterbury's New Year Message. **12.50** Songs of Praise - New Year's Day Big Sing. **1.30** Film: Wallace & Gromit in The Curse of the Were-Rabbit. (2005) Oscar-winning animated adventure, with the voice of Peter Sallis. **2.50** Film: The Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian. (2008) Fantasy adventure sequel, starring Ben Barnes. **5.05** BBC News: Regional News: Weather. **5.30** Film: Bolt. (2008) Premiere. Animated adventure, with the voice of John Travolta.

7.00 EastEnders. Extended episode. Pat's friends and family gather by her bedside as her condition deteriorates rapidly - but the person she wants to see most of all, her son David, is not there.

8.10 Sherlock. New series. Holmes investigates a case of blackmail threatening to topple the monarchy - only to become engaged in a battle of wits with a woman as brilliant as himself.

9.40 Absolutely Fabulous. Edina tries to win Sally's respect.

10.10 BBC News: Regional News: Weather.

10.35 Adele Live at the Royal Albert Hall. Coverage of the singer in concert in September 2011.

11.35 FILM: Cold Mountain. (2003) Period drama, starring Nicole Kidman.

2.00 Weatherview. **2.05** BBC News.

6.00 CBBC. **9.55** Film: Gun Fury. (1953) Western, starring Rock Hudson. **11.15** New Year's Day Concert from Vienna 2012. **12.40** Film: Dean Stanley. (2008) Comedy, with Sam Neill, Peter O'Toole and Jeremy Northam. **2.15** Film: Force 10 from Navarone. (1978) Second World War adventure sequel, starring Harrison Ford. **4.15** The Archbishop of Canterbury's New Year Message. (R) **4.20** Film: The Eagle Has Landed. (1976) Adventure, with Michael Caine.

Australians swear by it
www.ozkleen.co.uk

6.30 You Have Been Watching - David Croft. A tribute to the TV comedy writer. (R)

7.30 Dad's Army. Captain Mainwaring puts the defence of the realm before personal pride, resulting in problems. Classic comedy with the Home Guard, with Arthur Lowe. (R)

8.00 Great Barrier Reef. New series. Monty Halls explores the Australian coral reef and the wildlife that inhabits it.

9.00 A History of Ancient Britain Special: Orkney's Stone Age Temple. A newly discovered 5,000-year-old temple on Orkney.

10.00 Match of the Day 2. **11.00** QI XL. (R)

11.45 FILM: Broken Flowers. (2005) Comedy drama, starring Bill Murray.

1.25 BBC News. **2.30** Close.

6.00 CITV: Mini CITV. **7.25** CITV. **8.05** Film: Scooby-Doo and the Cyber Chase. (2001) Animated adventure, with the voice of Bob Bergen. **9.25** Film: Beethoven. (1991) Canine comedy, starring Charles Grodin. **11.00** Film: Licence to Kill. (1989) James Bond spy thriller, starring Timothy Dalton. **1.30** ITV News: Weather. **1.40** Inspector Morse. (R) **3.45** Downton Abbey. (R) **5.45** ITV News: Weather.

6.00 New You've Been Framed Top 100 Kids! Harry Hill narrates a selection of camcorder calamities and viewers' mobile-phone footage from the archives, featuring messy eaters, troublesome teens and sibling rivalries.

7.00 FILM: Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince. (2009) Premiere. The wizard must uncover the secrets of Lord Voldemort's past to try to end his reign of terror. Fantasy, starring Daniel Radcliffe.

9.45 The Unforgettable John Thaw. A tribute to the much-loved actor.

10.45 ITV News: Weather.

Australians swear by it
www.ozkleen.co.uk

11.00 FILM: Analyze This. (1999) Comedy, starring Robert De Niro.

12.55 Premiership Rugby Union: ITV News: Headlines. **1.50** Film: The Whole Ten Yards. (2004) **3.25** ITV News: Weather. **5.55** ITV Morning News.

6.20 The Hoobs. (R) **6.45** Film: The Land Before Time. (1988) Animated adventure, with the voice of Gabriel Damon. **8.00** Film: Arctic Tale. (2007) Premiere. Documentary on Arctic wildlife. **9.45** Film: The Bridge on the River Kwai. (1957) Oscar-winning Second World War drama, starring Alec Guinness. **12.50** Channel 4 Racing. **3.20** Film: True Grit. (1969) Western, starring John Wayne. **5.45** Channel 4 News. **5.55** 4thought.tv.

6.00 Deal or No Deal. Beat-the-banker game show.

7.00 Come Dine with Me. Sheila Whelan Duffy hosts the first dinner party in Londonderry, Northern Ireland.

8.00 The Hotel. New series. Documentary exploring life at the Grosvenor Hotel, Torquay.

Australians swear by it
www.ozkleen.co.uk

9.00 Bear's Wild Weekend with Jonathan Ross. Survival expert Bear Grylls takes the chat show host to little-known Canary Island La Palma, where they trek through dense jungle and walk down an active volcano.

10.00 Hacks.

11.05 Big Fat Quiz of the Year 2011. (R)

1.10 American Football Live. A match from the final weekend of the season. **4.45** Road to London 2012: That Paralympic Show. (R) **5.10** Post Modern Pastimes. (R) **5.25** Brothers & Sisters. (R)

6.00 Milkshake! Peppa Pig. **6.05** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **6.15** Fifi and the Flowertots. (R) **6.25** Fireman Sam. (R) **6.40** Harry and His Bucket Full of Dinosaurs. (R) **6.50** Castle Farm. (R) **6.55** Igan Ogam. (R) **7.05** Roobarb and Custard Too. (R) **7.15** The Milkshake! Show. (R) **7.35** Make Way for Noddy. (R) **7.45** Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures. (R) **7.50** Little Princess. (R) **8.05** Mio Mao. (R) **8.10** Olivia. (R) **8.25** Milkshake! Monkey. (R) **8.30** The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. (R) **8.40** Angelina Ballerina. **8.55** Rupert Bear. (R) **9.05** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.15** The Men Show. (R) **9.30** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **9.40** Mist: Sheepdog Tales. (R) **10.00** Meals in Moments. (R) **10.15** Meerkat Manor. (R) **10.45** The Top 10 Aussie Soap Moments 2011. **11.45** World's Strongest Man 2011. (R) **12.45** Film: Seven Brides for Seven Brothers. (1954) Musical Western, starring Howard Keel. **2.50** Film: The Wizard of Oz. (1939) Musical fantasy, starring Judy Garland. **4.55** Film: Return to Oz. (1985) Fantasy adventure, starring Fairuza Balk.

6.55 5 News Weekend. **7.00** World's Strongest Man 2011. The final from Wingate University, North Carolina.

8.00 An Audience with Dame Edna: 1980. (R)

9.15 Most Shocking Celebrity Moments of 2011. (R)

12.10 The Truth About Cheryl Cole. (R) **1.10** SuperCasino. **4.00** Meals in Moments. (R) **4.10** Nick's Quest. (R) **4.35** Divine Designs. (R) **5.00** Hana's Helpline. (R) **5.10** The Milkshake! Show. (R) **5.35** Thomas & Friends. (R) **5.45** Roary the Racing Car. (R)

ITV2
2.45 Film: Richie Rich (1994) **4.45** Film: Charlie and the Chocolate Factory (2005) **7.00** All Star Family Fortunes Christmas Special **8.00** The Cube Celebrity Special **9.00** Film: I Am Legend (2007) **11.00** Film: Terminator 2: Judgment Day (1991)

ITV3
3.50 Film: Carry On Camping (1969) **5.45** Film: Doc Hollywood (1991) **7.45** Lewis. A woman's murder is copied from the pages of a novel. **9.45** Film: Sophie's Choice (1982)

ITV4
3.20 Film: The Battle of Midway (1976) **6.00** Film: 633 Squadron (1964) **8.00** Premiership Rugby Union **9.00** Film: Nighthawks (1981) **11.00** Film: Coogan's Bluff (1968)

BBC THREE
7.00 Film: WALL-E (2008) **8.30** BURN.E **8.40** Pixar: 25 Magic Moments **9.40** Film: Rataouille (2007) **11.20** EastEnders

BBC FOUR
7.00 New Year's Day Concert from Vienna 2012 **9.00** Film: Half a Sixpence (1967) **11.20** Come Bell Ringing with Charles Hazlewood

E4
3.45 Being Erica **4.40** Samantha Who? **5.10** Film: Black Knight (2001) **7.00** Film: Crocodile Dundee (1986) **9.00** World's Greatest Body Shockers - Part 1 **10.00** Tim Minchin: Ready for This? **11.45** PhoneShop

FILM4
2.10 Journey to the Center of the Earth (2008) **4.00** Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian (2009) **6.05** Transformers (2007) Sci-fi action adventure, starring Shia LaBeouf and Megan Fox. **8.50** The Iron Lady Interview Special **9.00** Ferris Bueller's Day Off (1986) A cocky teenager plays truant from school and spends the day dragging his friends into all manner of adventures in the big city. Comedy, with Matthew Broderick and Jennifer Grey. **11.00** Scary Movie (2000)

Awarded
BA Jeweller of the Year

BOWJANGLES MIDLANDS

Photo ID Required

Best Buyers of...

We Buy All: Gold, Silver, Platinum, Palladium, Pre 47 Silver coins, Euro Notes, Euro Coins

Premiums Paid On: (1 Carat +) Diamonds Diamond Jewellery & melting service

TRADE CONTRACTS AVAILABLE!!!
FREE ADVICE! NO OBLIGATION!

BOWJANGLES MIDLANDS..CURRENT BUYING PRICES

Everybody welcome
Any amount
Any condition

Honest
Accurately
calibrated
scales used

Prices paid on 19/12/12

GOLD
OPEN MON-SAT 10.00 - 5.00PM

9ct ... £11.95 per gram
14ct ... £18.59 per gram
18ct ... £23.90 per gram

Full Kruggerand£997 each

PLATINUM
Fine Platinum **£26.00/gram**
Thermo Coupling Wire wanted
Platinum Crucibles taken

SILVER

45p/gram
45p/gram (minimum) for charm bracelets and Albert chains
Any silver articles hallmarked are priced per piece

WATCHES
All Rolex Watches Wanted
All Omega Watches Wanted
All Pocket Watches Wanted

RING FOR DAILY PRICES
Prices correct at the time of printing and are subject to change daily

EURO'S
WE BUY AND SELL EURO'S

We Pay Euros for Old Gold

ANTIQUE ARTICLES WANTED ALSO...

Wednesbury
0121 556 6868
17 Market Place,
WS10 7AY
(Wednesbury J9, M6)

Birmingham
0121 236 8519
6 Warstone Mews,
Jewellery Quarter,
Birmingham B18 6JB

Birmingham
0121 554 8917
36 Vyse Street
Jewellery Quarter,
Birmingham B18 6JY

www.bowjanglesmidlands.co.uk

Monday

BBC1 6.00 Breakfast. 9.00 Wanted Down Under. 9.45 Homes Under the Hammer. 10.45 Saints and Scoundrels. 11.30 Britain's Empty Homes. 12.00 Bargain Hunt. 12.45 BBC News: Weather. 1.10 Film: Race to Witch Mountain. (2009) 2.45 Film: Sister Act 2: Back in the Habit. (1993) 4.30 Final Score. 5.10 BBC News: Weather. 5.25 Regional News: Weather. 5.35 Celebrity Mastermind. 6.05 Film: Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull. (2008) 8.00 EastEnders. 8.30 EastEnders: Farewell Pat. 9.00 Royal Bodyguard. 9.10 Regional News: Weather. 10.00 BBC News. 10.10 Regional News: Weather. 10.20 Match of the Day. 11.30 Film: Point Break. (1991) 1.25 Weatherview. 1.30 Sign Zone: Who Do You Think You Are? (R) 2.30 Holly City. (R) 3.30 MasterChef: The Professionals. (R) 4.00 You've Been Scammed. (R) 4.45 BBC News.

BBC2 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 9.15 Film: A Date with Tad Hamilton! (2004) 12.55 EastEnders. 1.30 Real Rescues. (R) 3.45 Flog It! 4.30 Perfect. 5.15 Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is. 6.00 Eggheads. 6.30 Great British Railway Journeys. 7.00 Baking Made Easy. (R) 7.30 A Question of Taste. 8.00 University Challenge. 8.30 An Island Paradise. 9.00 Armando's Tale of Charles Dickens. 10.00 Film: Revolutionary Road. (2008) 11.50 Film: Hideous Kinky. (1998) 1.25 BBC News. 4.20 Close.

ITV1 6.00 CITY: Mini CITY. 7.25 CITY. 7.55 Film: Clifford's Really Big Movie. (2005) 9.25 Film: Beethoven's 2nd. (1993) 11.00 You've Been Framed! (R) 12.30 Regional News: Weather. 1.55 Regional News: Weather. 2.00 Agatha Christie's Poirot. (R) 3.55 Film: Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone. (2001) 6.35 Regional News: Weather. 6.45 ITV News: Weather. 7.00 ITV News: Weather. 7.30 Coronation Street. 8.00 Cornwall. 8.30 Coronation Street. 9.00 Endeavour. 11.00 ITV News: Weather. 11.15 Film: Die Another Day. (2002) 1.40 The Zone. ITV News. 3.25 ITV Nightscreen. 4.55 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 5.55 ITV Morning News.

Channel 4 6.10 The Treacle People. (R) 6.20 The Hoobs. (R) 6.45 The Hoobs. (R) 7.10 Freshly Squeezed. 7.35 According to Jim. (R) 8.00 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.35 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 9.05 Frasier. (R) 10.10 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 10.40 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 11.05 The Simpsons. (R) 11.40 The Simpsons. (R) 12.10 Film: Baby's Day Out. (1994) 2.00 Film: Von Ryan's Express. (1965) 4.15 Deal or No Deal. 5.15 Channel 4 News. 5.25 4thought.v. 5.30 The Simpsons. (R) 6.00 Hollyoaks. 6.30 The Channel 4 Mash Up. 6.35 The Million Pound Drop: The Channel 4 Mash Up. 6.55 Come Dine with Me. Made in Chelsea: The Channel 4 Mash Up. 7.30 Location, Location, Location: The Channel 4 Mash Up. 7.55 The Million Pound Drop: The Channel 4 Mash Up. 8.15 Come Dine with Me. Made in Chelsea: The Channel 4 Mash Up. 8.45 River Cottage: The Channel 4 Mash Up. 9.05 Countdown. 8 Out of 10 Cats: The Channel 4 Mash Up. 9.35 The Million Pound Drop: The Channel 4 Mash Up. 10.00 The Bar. 11.05 Comedy Showcase: The Angelos Neil Epithemium Show. (R) 11.35 Random Acts. (R) 11.40 Hacks. (R) 12.45 Music on 4. Inpudnut. 1.00 No. No. No. (R) 1.05 Coming Up: Magic. (R) 1.30 Jon Snow's 2011. (R) 2.25 The Year the Earth Went Wild. (R) 3.20 Ozone. (R) 3.40 Brave New World with Stephen Hawking. (R) 4.35 St Elsewhere. (R) 5.25 Brothers & Sisters. (R)

Channel 5 6.00 Milkshake! 10.00 Meerkat Manor. (R) 10.40 World's Strongest Man 2011. (R) 11.40 5 News Lunchtime. 11.50 Film: Custer of the West. (1967) 2.35 Magic Beyond Words: The JK Rowling Story. 4.20 Film: The Slipper and the Rose. (1976) 7.00 The Hotel Inspector. (R) 5 News Update. 8.00 The Greatest Ever Carry On Films. (R) 5 News at 9. 9.00 Film: Hitch. (2005) Romantic comedy, starring Will Smith, Eva Mendes and Kevin James. Includes 5 News Update. 11.25 Film: I Still Know What You Did Last Summer. (1998) 1.20 SuperCasino. 4.05 Meats in Moments. (R) 4.15 Greys Anatomy. 5.00 County Secrets. (R) 5.10 Wildlife SOS. (R)

Tuesday

BBC1 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Wanted Down Under. 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer. BBC News: Weather. 11.00 Saints and Scoundrels. 11.45 Britain's Empty Homes. BBC News: Weather. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. 1.00 BBC News: Weather. 1.30 Regional News: Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Escape to the Country. 3.00 BBC News: Weather. Regional News. 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Pointless. 6.00 BBC News: Weather. 6.30 Regional News Programmes: Weather. 7.00 Celebrity Mastermind. 7.30 EastEnders: BBC News: Regional News. 8.00 Holly City. 9.00 Public Bodyguard. 9.10 Regional News: Weather. News: Weather. National Lottery Update. 10.35 Lee Mack Going Out Live. (R) 11.35 The Graham Norton Show. (R) 12.20 Weatherview. 12.25 Sign Zone: Frozen Planet. (R) 1.25 James May's Man Lab. (R) 2.25 MasterChef: The Professionals. (R) 3.25 You've Been Scammed. (R) 4.10 BBC News.

BBC2 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.25 CBeebies. 11.50 Film: A Goofy Movie. (1995) Animated comedy, with the voice of Bill Farmer. 1.00 One Man and His Campervan. (R) 1.30 To Buy or Not to Buy. (R) 2.15 Weakest Link. (R) 3.00 Real Rescues. (R) 3.45 Flog It! 4.30 Perfect. 5.15 Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is. 6.00 Eggheads. 6.30 Great British Railway Journeys. 7.00 Bakers' Best of British. (R) 8.00 Weird Nature. 9.00 King George and Queen Mary: The Royals Who Rescued the Monarchy. 10.00 Have I Got Old News for You. (R) 10.30 Newsnight: Weather. 11.20 Charlie Brooker's 2011 Wipe. (R) 12.20 BBC News. 4.15 Close.

ITV1 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News: Weather. 1.55 Regional News: Weather. 2.00 Dickinson's Real Deal. (R) 3.00 Lewis. (R) 4.59 Regional News: Weather. 5.00 The Chase. 6.00 Regional News: Weather. 6.30 ITV News: Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 River Monsters. 8.00 Celebrity Who Wants to Be a Millionaire? New Year Special. 9.00 The Biggest Loser. 10.00 ITV News at Ten: Weather. 10.30 Regional News: Weather. 10.35 Film: American Pie Presents Band Camp. (2005) Comedy sequel, starring Tad Hilgenbrink and Eugene Levy. 12.15 The Zone. ITV News Headlines. 2.50 Crossing Jordan. (R) 3.35 ITV Nightscreen. 5.30 ITV Morning News.

Channel 4 6.10 The Hoobs. (R) 6.35 Squeezed. 7.30 Perfect Couples. 7.50 According to Jim. (R) 8.20 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.50 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 9.20 Frasier. (R) 9.55 Frasier. (R) 10.25 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 10.55 Undercover Boss Australia. 11.55 Film: Dreamer: Inspired by a True Story. (2005) Family drama, starring Kurt Russell and Dakota Fanning. 1.55 Film: Casablanca. (1942) Romantic drama, starring Humphrey Bogart, Ingrid Bergman and Claude Rains. 4.00 Deal or No Deal. 5.00 Celebrity Come Dine with Me. (R) 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 6.35 Channel 4 News. 7.55 4thought.v. 8.00 The Fat Fighters. 9.00 Accused: The 74 Stone Babysitter. 10.00 The Bank Job. 11.05 Felix and Murdo. (R) 11.40 The Simpsons. (R) 12.15 Random Acts. 12.20 Film: Kung Fu Hustle. (2004) 2.00 Brief Encounters of the Sporting Mind: Body Building. (R) 2.05 KOTV Boxing Weekly. 2.30 Beach Volley. (R) 6.30 The X-Files Series. (R) 3.50 The Grid. 4.15 GT Academy. (R) 4.40 Brave New World with Stephen Hawking. (R) 5.30 Scrapheap Challenge. (R)

Channel 5 6.00 Milkshake! 10.00 Meerkat Manor. (R) 10.30 Monkey Life. (R) 11.00 Ice Road Truckers. (R) 12.00 5 News Lunchtime. 12.10 Film: Apache Drums. (1951) 1.40 Film: Avenging Angel. (2007) 3.20 Film: Mystery Woman: Redemption. (2006) 5.00 5 News at 5. 5.30 Chinese Food in Minutes. 5.55 Film: Casablanca. (1942) Romantic drama. (R) 6.55 5 News. 7.00 Charley Boorman's Extreme Frontiers. (R) 5 News Update. 8.00 New Cowboy Builders: 5 News at 9. 9.00 Thirteen: Conspiracy. (R) 11.35 Bourne Identity: The True Story. (R) 12.35 Comedy Kings: Best of Just for Laughs. 1.05 SuperCasino. 4.00 Meats in Moments. (R) 4.10 Michaela's Wild Challenge. (R) 5.00 County Secrets. (R) 5.10 Wildlife SOS. (R)

Wednesday

BBC1 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Wanted Down Under. 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer. BBC News: Weather. 11.00 Saints and Scoundrels. 11.45 Britain's Empty Homes. BBC News: Weather. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. 1.00 BBC News: Weather. 1.30 Regional News: Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Escape to the Country. 3.00 BBC News: Weather. Regional News. 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Pointless. 6.00 BBC News: Weather. 6.30 Regional News Programmes: Weather. 7.00 Celebrity Mastermind. 7.30 Fake Britain: BBC News: Regional News. 8.00 Countryfile: Weather for the Week Ahead. 9.00 Public Enemies. 10.30 BBC News. 10.25 Regional News: Weather. 10.35 The National Lottery Wednesday Night Draws. 10.45 Match of the Day. 11.45 Film: Tombstone. (1993) 1.45 Weatherview. 12.55 Sign Zone: World's Most Dangerous Roads. (R) 2.50 Bible's Buried Secrets. (R) 3.50 MasterChef: The Professionals. (R) 4.50 BBC News.

BBC2 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.25 CBeebies. 11.30 Film: McKinsey's Link. (1998) 1.00 One Man and His Campervan. (R) 1.30 To Buy or Not to Buy. (R) 2.15 Weakest Link. (R) 3.00 Real Rescues. (R) 3.45 Flog It! 4.30 Perfect. 5.15 Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is. 6.00 Eggheads. 6.30 Great British Railway Journeys. 7.00 Bakers' Best of British. (R) 8.00 Weird Nature. 9.00 King George and Queen Mary: The Royals Who Rescued the Monarchy. 10.00 Mock the Week - Again. (R) 10.30 Newsnight: Weather. 11.20 Charlie Brooker's New England. (R) 12.20 An Island Parish. (R) 12.50 BBC News. 4.10 Close.

ITV1 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News: Weather. 1.55 Regional News: Weather. 2.00 Dickinson's Real Deal. (R) 3.00 Lewis. (R) 4.59 Regional News: Weather. 5.00 The Chase. 6.00 Regional News: Weather. 6.30 ITV News: Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 Harry Hill's TV Burp. 8.00 Film: Mamma Mia! (2008) 10.10 ITV News: Weather. 10.40 Regional News: Weather. 10.45 Film: Practical Magic. (1998) 12.35 The Zone. ITV News. 2.40 Film: Balto 3: Wings of Change. (2004) 4.00 ITV Nightscreen. 5.30 ITV Morning News.

Channel 4 6.30 The Hoobs. (R) 6.55 Squeezed. 7.50 Perfect Couples. 8.15 According to Jim. (R) 8.40 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 9.10 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 9.40 Frasier. (R) 10.15 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 10.40 Undercover Boss Australia. 11.00 Film: The Love Bug. (1968) Disney comedy, starring Dean Jones. 1.50 Film: Tobruk. (1967) Second World War adventure, starring George Peppard and Rock Hudson. 4.00 Deal or No Deal. 5.00 Celebrity Come Dine with Me. (R) 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 4thought.v. 8.00 How to Cook Like Heston. 8.30 The Fabulous Baker Brothers. 9.00 One Born Every Minute. 10.00 The Bank Job. 11.05 Random Acts. 11.10 Bear's Wild Weekend with Jonathan Ross. (R) 12.15 Music on 4: Launched at Red Bull Studios. 12.30 Music on 4: The Album Chart Show Introduces. Nicola Roberts. 12.45 Night Walking. (R) 12.50 Coming Up: Rough Skin. (R) 1.15 Strange Little Girls. (R) 1.30 Film: Highwayman. (2004) Premiere. Horror, starring Jim Caviezel. 2.50 The Guides. (R) 3.05 Mummyfying Alan: Egypt's Last Secret. (R) 4.35 Hugh's Fish Fight. (R) 5.30 Brothers & Sisters. (R)

Channel 5 6.00 Milkshake! 10.00 Animal Rescue Squad. (R) 10.20 Meerkat Manor. (R) 10.50 Ice Road Truckers. (R) 11.50 5 News Lunchtime. 11.55 Film: Six Guns and a Cowboy. (1962) Western, starring Audie Murphy. 1.35 The Witches of Oz. (R) 3.15 Film: A Girl Like Me: The Gwen Araujo Story. (2005) Fact-based drama, starring JD Pardo. 5.00 5 News at 5. 5.30 Chinese Food in Minutes. (R) 6.00 Eddie Stobart: Trucks and Trailers. (R) 6.55 5 News. 7.00 Charley Boorman's Extreme Frontiers. (R) 5 News Update. 8.00 Building the Ice Hotel: 5 News at 9. 9.00 Celebrity Big Brother. (R) 10.00 The X-Files Series. (R) 11.35 Bourne Identity: The True Story. (R) 12.35 Comedy Kings: Best of Just for Laughs. 1.05 SuperCasino. 4.00 Meats in Moments. (R) 4.10 Michaela's Wild Challenge. (R) 5.00 County Secrets. (R) 5.10 Wildlife SOS. (R)

Thursday

BBC1 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Wanted Down Under. 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer. BBC News: Weather. 11.00 Saints and Scoundrels. 11.45 Britain's Empty Homes. BBC News: Weather. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. 1.00 BBC News: Weather. 1.30 Regional News: Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Escape to the Country. 3.00 BBC News: Weather. Regional News. 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Pointless. 6.00 BBC News: Weather. 6.30 Regional News Programmes: Weather. 7.00 Celebrity Mastermind. 7.30 EastEnders: BBC News: Regional News. 8.00 Earthlight. 9.00 Public Enemies. 10.30 BBC News: Weather. 10.25 Regional News: Weather. 10.35 Absolutely Fabulous. (R) 11.05 Film: Under the Tuscan Sun. (2003) Romantic comedy drama, with Diane Lane. 12.50 Sking Without. 12.55 Sign Zone: Countryfile. (R) 1.55 Antiques Roadshow. (R) 2.55 Britain's Hidden Heritage. (R) 3.55 BBC News.

BBC2 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.25 CBeebies. 11.30 Film: Darby O'Gill and the Little People. (1959) Disney fantasy, starring Sean Connery. 1.00 One Man and His Campervan. (R) 1.30 To Buy or Not to Buy. (R) 2.15 Weakest Link. (R) 3.00 Real Rescues. (R) 3.45 Flog It! 4.30 Perfect. 5.15 Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is. 6.00 Eggheads. 6.30 Great British Railway Journeys. 7.00 Bakers' Best of British. (R) 8.00 Weird Nature. 9.00 King George and Queen Mary: The Royals Who Rescued the Monarchy. 10.00 Mock the Week - Again. (R) 10.30 Newsnight: Weather. 11.20 Charlie Brooker's New England. (R) 12.20 BBC News. 4.10 Close.

ITV1 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News: Weather. 1.55 Regional News: Weather. 2.00 Dickinson's Real Deal. (R) 3.00 Lewis. (R) 4.59 Regional News: Weather. 5.00 The Chase. 6.00 Regional News: Weather. 6.30 ITV News: Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 Dying to Be Thin: Tonight. 8.00 Emmerdale. 8.30 Coronation Street. 9.00 Eternal Law. 10.00 ITV News: Weather. 10.40 Regional News: Weather. 10.35 Film: Tightrope. (1984) Thriller, starring Clint Eastwood. 12.40 The Zone: ITV News Headlines. 2.45 Dying to Be Thin: Tonight. (R) 3.10 ITV Nightscreen. 4.30 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 5.30 ITV Morning News.

Channel 4 6.15 Sali Mail. (R) 6.20 The Treacle People. (R) 6.55 The Hoobs. (R) 7.20 Freshly Squeezed. 7.45 Perfect Couples. 8.10 According to Jim. (R) 8.40 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 9.05 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 9.35 Frasier. (R) 10.05 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 10.35 Undercover Boss Australia. 11.00 Film: A Challenge for Robin Hood. (1967) Action adventure, starring Barrie Ingham. 1.35 Film: The Cruel Sea. (1953) Second World War nautical adventure, starring Jack Hawkins. 4.00 Deal or No Deal. 5.00 Celebrity Come Dine with Me. (R) 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 4thought.v. 8.00 Location, Location, Location. 9.00 The Restoration Man. 10.00 The Bank Job. 11.05 Random Acts. 11.10 Accused: The 74 Stone Babysitter. (R) 12.15 Music on 4: Launched at Red Bull Studios. 12.30 Music on 4: Alex Zane Pops Out. (R) 1.00 Film: A Man Apart. (2003) Crime thriller, starring Vin Diesel. 2.50 Whatever Turns You On. (R) 2.55 Shooting Gallery. (R) 3.05 Hugh's Fish Fight. (R) 4.10 Advisors. (R) 4.15 Hugh's Fish Fight. (R) 5.10 Brothers & Sisters. (R) 5.55 Sali Mail. (R)

Channel 5 6.00 Milkshake! 10.00 Animal Rescue Squad. (R) 10.15 Meerkat Manor. (R) 10.45 Ice Road Truckers. (R) 11.45 5 News Lunchtime. 11.55 Film: The Abolition of Man. (1933) Western. (R) 1.35 Film: Jack Mahoney. 1.35 The Witches of Oz. (R) 3.15 Film: Devil Wives. (2003) Adventure, starring Joe Lando. 5.00 5 News at 5. 5.30 Chinese Food in Minutes. (R) 6.00 Eddie Stobart: Trucks and Trailers. (R) 6.55 5 News Update. 7.00 Charley Boorman's Extreme Frontiers. (R) 5 News Update. 8.00 Building the Ice Hotel: 5 News at 9. 9.00 Celebrity Big Brother. (R) 10.00 The X-Files Series. (R) 11.35 Bourne Identity: The True Story. (R) 12.35 Comedy Kings: Best of Just for Laughs. 1.05 SuperCasino. 4.00 Meats in Moments. (R) 4.10 Michaela's Wild Challenge. (R) 5.00 County Secrets. (R) 5.10 Wildlife SOS. (R)

Friday

BBC1 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Wanted Down Under. 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer. BBC News: Weather. 11.00 Saints and Scoundrels. 11.45 Britain's Empty Homes. BBC News: Weather. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. 1.00 BBC News: Weather. 1.30 Regional News: Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Escape to the Country. 3.00 BBC News: Weather. Regional News. 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Pointless. 6.00 BBC News: Weather. 6.30 Regional News Programmes: Weather. 7.00 Celebrity Mastermind. 7.30 A Question of Sport. (R) BBC News: Regional News. 8.00 EastEnders. 8.30 The Public Bodyguard. 9.00 Regional News: Weather. 10.25 Regional News: Weather. 10.35 The Graham Norton Show. 11.20 The National Lottery Friday Night Draws. 11.30 Film: The Infield. (2010) 1.10 Weatherview. 1.15 Sign Zone: Natural World: Woman Who Swims With Killer Whales. (R) 2.15 James May's Man Lab. (R) 3.15 MasterChef: The Professionals. (R) 4.15 BBC News.

BBC2 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.25 CBeebies. 11.30 Film: Stolen Summer. (2002) Drama, starring Aidan Quinn. 1.00 One Man and His Campervan. (R) 1.30 To Buy or Not to Buy. (R) 2.15 Weakest Link. 3.00 Real Rescues. (R) 3.45 Flog It! 4.30 Perfect. 5.15 Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is. 6.00 Eggheads. 6.30 Great British Railway Journeys. 7.00 Great Bait Reel. (R) 8.00 Mastermind. 8.30 Mastermind. 9.00 Sicily Unpacked. 10.00 QI. (R) 10.30 Newsnight. 11.00 Weather. 11.05 Film: 50 Dead Men Walking. (2008) Premiere. Fact-based thriller, starring Jim Purgess. 12.55 Film: Beaufort. (2007) Premier Israeli war drama, starring Oshri Cohen. 2.55 BBC News. 3.35 Close.

ITV1 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News: Weather. 1.55 Regional News: Weather. 2.00 Dickinson's Real Deal. (R) 3.00 Lewis. (R) 4.59 Regional News: Weather. 5.00 The Chase. 6.00 Regional News: Weather. 6.30 ITV News: Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 Coronation Street. 9.00 Eternal Law. 10.00 ITV News: Weather. 10.40 Regional News: Weather. 10.35 Film: Tightrope. (1984) Thriller, starring Clint Eastwood. 12.40 The Zone: ITV News Headlines. 2.45 Dying to Be Thin: Tonight. (R) 3.10 ITV Nightscreen. 4.30 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 5.30 ITV Morning News.

Channel 4 6.00 The Treacle People. (R) 6.10 The Hoobs. (R) 6.35 The Hoobs. (R) 7.00 Freshly Squeezed. 7.30 Perfect Couples. 7.55 According to Jim. (R) 8.20 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.50 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 9.20 Frasier. (R) 9.55 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 10.25 Film: Hello, Dolly! (1969) Period musical, starring Barbra Streisand. 1.10 Film: Total Toral Toral! (1970) Fact-based Second World War drama, starring Martin Balsam. 4.00 Deal or No Deal. 5.00 Celebrity Come Dine with Me. (R) 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 4thought.v. 7.30 Come Dine with Me: Celebrity Special. 8.30 New Girl. 9.00 The Bank Job. 10.00 Rude Tube 2012. 12.05 Film: Big Fish. (R) 6.55 5 News. 7.00 Charley Boorman's Extreme Frontiers. (R) 5 News Update. 8.00 World's Toughest Trucker. New series. Eight drivers navigate treacherous roads; 5 News at 9. 9.00 Celebrity Big Brother. (R) 10.00 Celebrity Wedding Planner. 11.00 The X-Files Series. (R) 11.35 Bourne Identity: The True Story. (R) 12.35 Comedy Kings: Best of Just for Laughs. 1.05 SuperCasino. 4.00 Meats in Moments. (R) 4.10 Michaela's Wild Challenge. (R) 4.55 County Secrets. (R) 5.10 Wildlife SOS. (R)

Channel 5 6.00 Milkshake! 10.00 Animal Rescue Squad. (R) 10.15 Meerkat Manor. (R) 10.45 Ice Road Truckers. (R) 11.45 5 News Lunchtime. 11.55 Film: The Abolition of Man. (1933) Western. (R) 1.35 Film: Jack Mahoney. 1.35 The Witches of Oz. (R) 3.15 Film: Devil Wives. (2003) Adventure, starring Joe Lando. 5.00 5 News at 5. 5.30 Chinese Food in Minutes. (R) 6.00 Eddie Stobart: Trucks and Trailers. (R) 6.55 5 News Update. 7.00 Charley Boorman's Extreme Frontiers. (R) 5 News Update. 8.00 Building the Ice Hotel: 5 News at 9. 9.00 Celebrity Big Brother. (R) 10.00 The X-Files Series. (R) 11.35 Bourne Identity: The True Story. (R) 12.35 Comedy Kings: Best of Just for Laughs. 1.05 SuperCasino. 4.00 Meats in Moments. (R) 4.10 Michaela's Wild Challenge. (R) 4.55 County Secrets. (R) 5.10 Wildlife SOS. (R)

14 Hagley Road, Halesowen (town centre)
0121 550 9800
DOMESTICS of Halesowen
SALES • SPARES • REPAIRS

Why buy secondhand or pay large repair costs when you can buy new at realistic prices

Fridge Freezers From £149
Washing Machines From £119
Dishwashers From £199 (For Illustration Purposes Only)

- Larders From **£89**
- Freezers From **£99**
- Large Selection of Vacuums From **£39**
- Cookers From **£139**
- Dryers From **£99**
- Spinners From **£99**

Open Monday - Thursday 8 am - 4.30 pm. Friday - Saturday 9 am - 4 pm

We also repair • Washers • Cookers • Refrigeration
All Items Carry A 12 Month Full Guarantee
Plus More Electrical Goods In Stock

JOHN T HARRIS
BLACKHEATH FURNITURE & BEDROOM CENTRE

SALE NOW ON

Stockists of Sherborne Upholstery
Unbeatable prices on 3 piece suites, high seated chairs 'Lift and Rise' recliners

0121 559 2402
1A Causeway, Blackheath
 Now open Saturday 10am-2pm, Weekdays 10am-4.30pm
 Closed all day Thursday • Private car park • Disabled

WE ARE HERE

Quality Reupholstery Service

REEL Quinton

Reel Cinema Quinton
Now Offer Films in 3D
FRIDAY 30TH DECEMBER TO THURSDAY 5TH JANUARY 2012
CLOSED NEW YEARS DAY

NEW YEARS EVE - (12A) - FLS
 FRIDAY, MONDAY TO THURSDAY 2020

ARTHUR CHRISTMAS - (U) - 2D
 FRIDAY 1130

MISSION IMPOSSIBLE - (12A) - FLS
 FRIDAY AND MONDAY 1410 1710 2010
 SATURDAY 1340
 TUESDAY TO THURSDAY 1710 2010

KIDS CLUB
ADVENTURES OF TIN TIN - (PG)
 FRIDAY 1130 1200
 SATURDAY 1110

HAPPY FEET - (U)
 FRIDAY AND SATURDAY 1140

FLS - FREE LIST SUSPENDED (NO COMPLIMENTARY TICKETS)
PROGRAM SUBJECT TO CHANGE
REEL MONDAY - FRIDAY - 10.30am - 12.30am (£4.20)
TO REGISTER FOR OUR PROGRAMMES AND TITLES VIA EMAIL PLEASE GO TO
<http://halesowen.reelcinemas.co.uk/>

at BRIDGORTH LEISURE CENTRE
HIGHTOWN WV16 4ER
10.30am-3.30pm Admission £2.00
 100 + stalls Buying and Selling Model Railways, Dinky, Corgi, Teddy Bears, Dolls, Tin Plate, Soldiers, Transport, Books and all Collectable Toys. Toys and Models Bought, Sold & Exchanged
 FREE VALUATIONS
Enquiries Tony Oakes on (01270) 841558

BRIDGORTH TOY & MODEL Collectors Fair
Sunday 1st January

5 good reasons to find your next place on homeofproperty.co.uk

1. We focus on the Black Country, Shropshire & Mid-Wales areas.

2. We list over 30,000 properties from 300+ local Estate Agents.

3. Our listings are refreshed daily with the latest properties available.

5. Email alerts can be sent out daily.

4. We have 1000's of properties not listed on other property websites.

 **Home of Property.co.uk**

Brought to you by the **Express & Star**



Britannia Motors Ltd

www.britanniamotorsukltd.co.uk

- 53 BMW 316 Ti COMPACT** Met Black, alloys, front fogs, PAS, EW x 4, AC, multiplay CD, don't miss.....**£3499**
- 52 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.0 LIFE** 3-door. Met Silver, alloys, PAS, EW, air con, CD, cheap insurance.....**SOLD**
- 55 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 LIFE** 5-door Hatch. Met Grey, PAS, EW, AC, CD.....**£3799**
- 51 MR2 1.8 VVTi** Bright Red, Black roof, alloys, EW, CD, 41k, only.....**£2799**
- 55 VAUXHALL VECTRA 1.9 CDTi** Hatch. Met Grey, alloys, sat nav, PAS, WE, CD, AC, only.....**£3699**
- 06 CHEVROLET TACUMA 2.0 CDX** Auto. Met Silver, roof bars, alloys, PAS, EW, AC, CD, 31k, only.....**£2699**
- 51 FREELANDER 1.8S** 3-door. Met Blue, twin roofs, PAS, EW, CD, alloys, 52k, only.....**SOLD**
- 04 X TYPE JAGUAR 2.5 V6** Auto AWD. Met paint, full cream leather, alloys, PAS, EW, CD, AC, must view.....**£3299**
- 54 ROVER 25 1.4 SEi** 5-door. Met Red, alloys, PAS, EW, air con, CD, Facelift model.....**£2299**
- 04 VAUXHALL VECTRA 1.8 LS** 5-door Hatch. Met Silver, PAS, EW, AC, CD.....**£2299**
- 55 CHEVROLET LACETTI 1.6 SX** Hatch. Met Silver, PAS, EW, AC, CD, alloys.....**£2499**
- 03 MGTF 1.6** Met Grey, Black roof, alloy wheels, elec windows, power steering, CD.....**£2699**
- 04 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 SXi** 5-door Hatch. Met Grey, alloys, PAS, EW, AC, CD, front fogs, new shape.....**£3999**
- 55 RENAULT CLIO 1.2 DYNAMIQUE** 3-door. Silver, PAS, EW, AC, CD, alloys, front fogs.....**£3299**
- Y RENAULT SCENIC 1.4 AUTHENTIQUE** Met Red, PAS, EW, AC, CD, 55k miles only, must see.....**£1999**

Powke Lane, Rowley Regis, B65 0AH

0121 561 5588

OPEN 7 DAYS

All Major Credit Cards Accepted



MOTORING NEWS AND REVIEWS CHRONICLE MOTORING

powered by
motors
.co.uk

Your guide to the world of motoring compiled by Motoring Editor Sharon Walters

Ferrari fanatic lifts the lid on 260 GTO

LIKE a magician about to reach the end of a complicated trick, Joe Macari stands next to a red Ferrari-emblazoned cover and pulls it back to reveal one of the most sought-after cars of all time.

"This," says Macari, "is the best example of its type I've ever seen."

Not only is Joe Macari a one-man encyclopaedia of all things Ferrari, he is also an accomplished racing driver and sits at the helm of Joe Macari Servicing, a purpose-built Ferrari service centre.

Under the roof of his west London address is every type of Ferrari ever built, and they are all waiting to have Macari and his army of highly trained engineers bestow their expertise upon them.

"If it were the real thing, it would be worth millions, but this re-creation is probably still worth at least £500,000," he says.

Different

"There are replicas and then there are re-creations. The difference being that a 250 GTO replica will normally sit on a donor chassis while a re-creation uses the same parts Ferrari made the original 250 GTO with."

"Only 36 GTOs were ever built and each of them was slightly different, and, like this one, were all based on a shortened 250 GT chassis."

Under the bonnet is a thoroughbred 3.0-litre V12 Ferrari engine, which has been bench tested and confirmed to have power output of 300bhp.

The A-arm front suspension, live-axle rear end and disc brakes are all to the exact 250 GTO specifications too, as is the rest of the car, including the Borrani wheels.

The body is perfect, too. It looks right in



This Ferrari 250 GTO restoration is one of the finest in the world

every respect; there are numerous air vents and slots which break up the smoothness of its beautifully sculptured body. The chrome door handles and bonnet catches have come off a Ferrari from the same era, too.

The accuracy is even more vivid from behind the wheel. The polished aluminium gear lever is both functional and artistic, the thin wooden steering wheel seems enormous by modern-day standards yet remains a tactile piece of sculpture.

Then there's the noise. On start-up it lets

out a gentle rumble, and then, as the revs increase, so does the V12 roar. It's a deep, rich, textured sound which reverberates around the sparse cockpit.

And, like the car it so flawlessly mimics, it is far from perfect. The genuine article was far from forgiving and took time to get the balance exactly right. It might be road-legal but its heart yearns to be on a race track, and when it was unleashed on the Goodwood race circuit, it came alive.

For a car of its age it still has an uncanny

way of instilling the sort of confidence normally found in modern-day supercars – it allowed for so much more extra speed to be carried into and throughout every turn.

This 250 GTO may not have the sort of pedigree which will ever see it being coveted enough to achieve a multimillion-dollar price tag, but it absolutely and emphatically encapsulates the very ethos which made these Ferraris so prized.

Somehow half a million quid does seem very reasonable indeed.

Motor-Market

Best value, choice & customer service

Buy now paying nothing
until March 2012!*

*Terms and conditions apply

A SELECTION OF OUR STOCK

	Reg	Model	Price	Wkly Equiv
05 Reg	307	2.0 HDI	£5695	or £36 wk
07 Reg	207	Sport	£4495	or £29 wk
07 Reg	Citroen C4		£4195	or £28 wk
57 Reg	Fiesta	Climate	£5195	or £33 wk
56 Reg	Punto	Active	£3895	or £24 wk
58 Reg	Megane	1.5 DCI	£5695	or £36 wk
05 Reg	CITROEN BERLINGO 1.4i	FORTE Beige, CD, 5-door, Low Insurance Group 4, 42k.....	£3195	£21
07 Reg	CITROEN C4 1.6 SX	Gold, A/C, Alloys, CD, 5-door, FSH, 38k.....	£4195	£28
05 Reg	CITROEN C4 1.6 VTR	Red, A/C, Alloys, CD, 3-door, FSH, 49k.....	£3495	£26
05 Reg	CITROEN XSARA PICASSO 1.6	DESIRE MPV Silver, A/C, CD, Insurance Grp 5.....	£3495	£23
56 Reg	FIAT PUNTO 1.2	DYNAMIC Grey, CD, 5-door, Ins Grp 3, 45k.....	£3495	£23
56 Reg	FIAT GRANDE PUNTO 1.2	ACTIVE Red, alloys, CD, Insurance group 2, 41k.....	£3695	£24
56 Reg	FIAT GRANDE PUNTO 1.2	ACTIVE Red, CD, 5-door, Ins Grp 2, FSH, 47k.....	£3695	£24
56 Reg	FIAT GRANDE PUNTO 1.4	ACTIVE SPORT Silver, Alloys, CD, 3-door, Ins Grp 3, FSH, 48k.....	£3695	£24
06 Reg	FORD KA 1.3i	STYLE Silver, CD, Low Insurance Grp 3, 41k.....	£2695	£17
04 Reg	FORD FIESTA 1.4	FLAME Orange, Alloys, CD.....	£2695	£17
06 Reg	FORD FIESTA 1.25	STYLE Mauve, CD, 5 door, Low Ins Grp 4, FSH, 23k.....	£3695	£24
57 Reg	FORD FIESTA 1.25	ZETEC CLIMATE Mauve, A/C, Alloys, CD, 5-door, Ins Grp 4, FSH, 23k.....	£3195	£23
08 Reg	FORD C-MAX 2.0	TDCI ZETEC MPV Silver, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD.....	£6995	£41
55 Reg	FORD STREET KA 1.6i	RED Silver, Convertible, Red Leather, A/C, Alloys, CD, FSH.....	£3195	£21
54 Reg	FORD STREET KA 1.6i	LUXURY Grey, Convertible, Leather, A/C, Alloys, CD, 48k.....	£2695	£17
57 Reg	FORD FOCUS 1.6	TDCI GHIA Silver, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD.....	£4495	£29
57 Reg	FORD FOCUS 1.6	TDCI ZETEC Silver, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD, FSH.....	£3195	£23
08 Reg	FORD MONDEO 1.8	TDCI EDGE Silver, Diesel, A/C, FSH, 68k.....	£6995	£41
58 Reg	FORD MONDEO 1.8	TDCI EDGE ESTATE Silver, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD, FSH, 68k.....	£6995	£41
07 Reg	JAGUAR X-TYPE 2.0	Grey, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD, FSH.....	£5695	£36
61 Reg	HYUNDAI 130	1.4 CLASSIC Black, Diesel, A/C, CD, 2k.....	£3495	£21
53 Reg	PEUGEOT 206	1.4 SE Silver, A/C, Alloys, CD, Multi Changer.....	£2695	£17
04 Reg	PEUGEOT 206	1.4 S Gold, A/C, Alloys, CD.....	£3195	£21
56 Reg	PEUGEOT 207	1.4 S Grey, A/C, CD, 5-door, FSH, 35k.....	£4495	£29
56 Reg	PEUGEOT 207	1.4 SPORT Blue, A/C, CD, 5-door, 40k.....	£4495	£29
56 Reg	PEUGEOT 207	1.4 SE Black A/C, Alloys, CD, 5-door, FSH, 34k.....	£4995	£32
08 Reg	PEUGEOT 207	1.4 VTI SPORT Yellow, A/C, Alloys, CD, 5-door, 10k, FSH.....	£6195	£40
05 Reg	PEUGEOT 307	1.6 HDI 110 SPORT Silver, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD.....	£3995	£26
55 Reg	PEUGEOT 307	1.6 S Red, A/C, Alloys, CD, FSH, 59k.....	£3695	£24
05 Reg	PEUGEOT 307	1.6 ENVI ESTATE Blue, A/C, Alloys, CD, Panoramic roof.....	£3195	£21
56 Reg	PEUGEOT 307	1.6 S AUTOMATIC Black, A/C, Alloys, CD, 48k.....	£3995	£26
56 Reg	PEUGEOT 307	1.6 HDI 110S Silver, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD, FSH.....	£4195	£28
55 Reg	PEUGEOT 307	1.6 S Black, 2006, A/C, Alloys, CD, FSH, 37k.....	£3995	£26
56 Reg	PEUGEOT 307	1.6 HDI 136 GT Orange, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD, Leather, FSH, 58k.....	£5695	£36
07 Reg	RENAULT CLIO 1.2	CAMPUS SPORT Blue, A/C, Alloys, CD, Low Insurance Grp 3.....	£3995	£26
07 Reg	RENAULT CLIO 1.6	DYNAMIQUE (New Shape), A/C, Alloys, CD, 5-door, Low Ins Grp 3, FSH.....	£3995	£26
05 Reg	RENAULT MEGANE 1.4	DYNAMIQUE Beige, A/C, Alloys, CD, FSH, 41k.....	£3495	£23
05 Reg	RENAULT MEGANE 1.9	DCI DYNAMIQUE Silver, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD, Panoramic Roof.....	£3195	£21
07 Reg	RENAULT MEGANE 1.4	DYNAMIQUE Silver, A/C, Alloys, CD, 3-door, FSH.....	£3695	£24

MANY MORE CARS IN STOCK

	Reg	Model	Price	Wkly Equiv
56 Reg	RENAULT MEGANE 1.6	MAXI Silver, A/C, Alloys, CD, FSH, 42k.....	£3995	£26
56 Reg	RENAULT MEGANE 1.5	DCI DYNAMIQUE Silver, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD, £30 Tax, FSH.....	£4695	£30
58 Reg	RENAULT MEGANE 1.5	DCI TECH RUN DYNAMIQUE DIESEL Grey, A/C, Alloys, CD, £30 Tax, FSH.....	£3695	£26
56 Reg	RENAULT MEGANE 1.5	DCI DYNAMIQUE Gold, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD, £30 Tax, FSH, 41k.....	£3695	£26
07 Reg	RENAULT MEGANE 1.6	DYNAMIQUE Cabriolet Silver, A/C, Alloys, CD, Panoramic Roof, FSH.....	£5695	£36
60 Reg	RENAULT MEGANE 1.6	DYNAMIQUE TOM TOM Grey, A/C, Alloys, CD, Sat Nav, FSH, 12k.....	£3995	£26
61 Reg	RENAULT SCENIC 1.5	DCI DYNAMIQUE TOM TOM Beige, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD, Sat Nav, 5k.....	£10,995	£64
07 Reg	RENAULT SCENIC 1.5	DCI DYNAMIQUE MPV Silver, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD, FSH.....	£4195	£28
04 Reg	RENAULT SCENIC 1.5	DCI DYNAMIQUE MPV Gold, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD, FSH, 50k.....	£4695	£30
04 Reg	ROVER STREETWISE 1.4SE	/silver, A/C, Alloys, CD, Leather Sports Seats.....	£1695	£12
05 Reg	VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6i	CLUB EASTYRONIC Silver, Auto, A/C, Alloys, CD, 42k.....	£3195	£21
07 Reg	VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.7	COTI LIFE Silver, Diesel, A/C, CD, FSH.....	£4495	£29
06 Reg	VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.4i	SXI COUPE Silver, A/C, CD, 3-door, FSH, 48k.....	£3195	£23
07 Reg	VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.4i	SXI Turquoise, air con, alloys, CD, FSH, 40k.....	£3195	£23
07 Reg	VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.7	COTI DESIGN Grey, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD, Half Leather Seats, FSH.....	£3195	£23
54 Reg	VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2	SXI Gold, A/C, Alloys, CD, Low Ins Group 3.....	£4495	£29
54 Reg	VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2	SXI Blue, A/C, Alloys, CD, Low Ins Grp 3.....	£4495	£29
55 Reg	VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2	SXI+ Silver, A/C, Alloys, CD, Low Ins Grp 3, FSH.....	£3695	£24
56 Reg	VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2i	SXI Silver, A/C, Alloys, CD, 5-door, 30k.....	£4195	£28
56 Reg	VAUXHALL TIGRA 1.8	EXCLUSIVE Blue, A/C, Alloys, CD, Heated Leather Seats, FSH, 49k.....	£5195	£33
05 Reg	VAUXHALL VECTRA 1.8i	VVT DESIGN Grey, A/C, Alloys, CD, Half Leather Sport Seats.....	£3995	£26
06 Reg	VAUXHALL VECTRA 1.9	COTI ENERGY Blue, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD.....	£3995	£26
57 Reg	VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.6	CLUB 7 seater Silver, A/C, Alloys, CD, FSH, 46k.....	£5695	£36
56 Reg	VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.8	CLUB MPV Black, A/C, Alloys, CD, 7 seater, FSH, 30k.....	£5695	£36
56 Reg	VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.9	COTI CLUB MPV Beige, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD, 7 seater, FSH.....	£5695	£36
55 Reg	VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.8	DESIGN MPV Black, A/C, Alloys, CD, Leather 7 seater, FSH, 10k.....	£3995	£26
11 Reg	VOLKSWAGEN GOLF 1.4	S Red, Diesel, A/C, CD, FSH, 41k.....	£5495	£35
06 Reg	VOLKSWAGEN POLO 1.2	S5 Blue, A/C, Alloys, CD, FSH.....	£4495	£29

PART EXCHANGES TO CLEAR

	Reg	Model	Price	Wkly Equiv
03 Reg	FORD MONDEO 1.8	LX Red, P/X to clear, MOT'd Feb 2012.....	£1695	na
Y Reg	VOLKSWAGEN PASSAT 1.9	SE TDI Green, Diesel, P/X to clear, MOT'd March 2012.....	£1695	na
52 Reg	NISSAN ALMERA 1.5	Red, P/X to clear, MOT'd April 2012.....	£1695	na
53 Reg	FORD FOCUS 1.8	TDI LD White, Diesel, P/X to clear, MOT'd April 2012.....	£1995	na

All Prices after £300 Minimum Part Exchange Allowance
Finance Example - Cash Price £3995, Less Cash or Part Exchange Deposit £500
Amount Of Credit £3495, Total Amount Payable £5453.60
48 Monthly Payments of £103.20 or 208 weekly payments of £23.82

TYPICAL
19.9% APR

OPEN
MON-FRI
9 am-6 pm
SAT-SUN
10 am-4 pm

www.motor-market.net

27 Newtown Lane Cradley Heath B64 5EB

01384 411119

follow us online
facebook twitter
everything you need to know



The Volvo XC60's stop-start system helps this big vehicle achieve excellent fuel consumption

Volvo prepares to take on big boys

By Bob Hickman

AS LONG as I can remember the name Volvo in car manufacturing terms has always meant dependant reliable vehicles and a few years ago if you were in the market for an estate car there really was only one option and that was the Volvo.

Time moves on and motoring fashions change but Volvo have not stood still and the XC60 has managed to combine the best of the XC90 and the XC70 estate car, in combining these it has produced one of the safest and the most stylish Volvo yet seen.

The market place for the XC60 is a difficult one especially with the current economic climate and people wanting more and more miles to the gallon and lower and lower CO2 emissions. The market is currently dominated by the Nissan Qashqai, Honda CRV perhaps the Toyota Rav or the BMW X3.

The XC60 is 21cms shorter than the XC70 estate and 17 cms shorter and 7cms lower than the XC90.

The coupe features really do give the XC60 an agile, sharp handling look; obviously a wide track and a firmly tuned suspension with excellent steering give the vehicle the characteristics and dynamics of a vehicle that perhaps you would like to aspire to. In addition this vehicle is a pleasure to drive and with Volvo safety you will feel cocooned within it.

Electronic

The XC60 that I had on test had the all-wheel drive system and this really does improve the handling and road holding and does give it a feeling of stability when the road surface is a little wet or slippery.

Sadly I did not have the vehicle when we had our annual snowfall to have been able to enjoy a drive when otherwise you would feel trepidation at the road conditions.

Drive is to all four wheels but the electronic set up automatically senses if a wheel is not gripping properly and transfers power to it where it is needed, this ensures maximum traction at all times.

The driving dynamics of the vehicle which was equipped with a 2,400cc five-cylinder diesel engine was reassuring at all times, with a slightly higher driving position and an excellent cabin design with well thought out features, you have a vehicle that you quickly adapt to and become comfortable with.

The engine produces 215 bhp and delivers a quoted mpg of 50.4 mpg on



Alloy wheels are just one of the high spec features



The XC60 is packed with a host of new safety features

the combined cycle due to the stop start system.

It was gratifying to note that I actually managed to get within five mpg of these figures on a combination of twisty, sinewy A and B class roads and reasonably high speed motorway gallop, so for once the consumption figures were reasonably accurate.

The excellent fuel figures for this large vehicle are helped by the stop/start system which has been incorporated, albeit it is strange at first to sit in a completely silent vehicle when you come to a halt and take your foot off the clutch and the engines stops, and as soon as you press the clutch pedal it starts again, you soon adapt and get used to this feature.

The performance for the size of the vehicle is reasonably commendable, 0-60 in 9.7 seconds and a top speed where permissible of 130 mph is certainly more than adequate for this humble scribe's needs.

My test vehicle's trim level was quite high, Volvo are after all a premium brand manufacturer and I think you would expect to find front fog lamps, alloy wheels, roof rails and spoilers and the interior details to be high to include electronic climate control, an information centre, cruise control, leather

steering wheel with excellent remote controls built in and a CD player as standard features on a vehicle of this stature and price.

One feature on the XC60 is Volvo's city safe technology, this facility helps to avoid low speed accidents in city traffic or tailbacks, basically up to nine mph if the vehicle brakes in front suddenly the system can determine a collision is likely and the brakes are applied for you.

It works by way of a system of laser sensors which are integrated at the top of the windscreen and it detects when the vehicle in front or other objects up to 10 metres from the front of the car bumper.

Extremes

Volvo in addition to the safety technology has gone to extremes with electronic safety wizardry in the XC60, for example on my particular vehicle a small indicator contained in the wing mirror lights up when a vehicle is overtaking you and in your blind spot, a really useful feature that I can see becoming common place in an awfully lot more vehicles.

If the Volvo is going to be a contender for a place on your drive then be prepared to pay between £31,700 and £40,415.

REFUSED CAR CREDIT? NOT BY US!

Representative
APR 30.1%

CASH CUSTOMERS
ALWAYS WELCOME

REPRESENTATIVE EXAMPLE

Total Cash Price £4999, Adv £499, Amount of Loan £4500, Interest £2700, Doc Fee £195, Total Charge For Credit £2895, Repay 1 x £195 then 48 months x £150.
Total Amount Payable £7894. Balance To Pay £7395. Interest PA 26.59%. Representative APR 30.1% x 48 months.

ALL CARS FROM £99 DEPOSIT

Subject to Status

03 JAGUAR X-TYPE 2.0D SE Price £4499 £30 Per week	04 MINI COOPER Price £5499 £37 Per week	06 RENAULT MEGANE 1.5 DCI Price £4499 £30 Per week	04 FIAT PUNTO 1.4 Price £2999 £19 Per week
--	--	---	---

Specialist

55 New BMW 320d SE Estate with leather	£9499
05 NEW BMW 320i SE 60k in grey	£6999
03 Mercedes ML270 CDI Inspiration black	£9499
04 Mercedes 1.8 CLK Elegance 29k	£8749
03 Audi 1.8 T Sport Convertible	£5999
54 Toyota Rav 4 XT3 D4 Diesel silver	£6499
03 Jaguar X-Type 2.0d SE in blue	£4499

Small & Sporty

54 Mini One Convertible red + SAT NAV42k	£6499
54 Mini One in bright blue 56k	£5999
05 Mini One Diesel red U-Jack roof 70mpg!!	£5499
03 Mini Cooper in white	£5499
04 Mini Cooper in black with "Chequers" roof	£5499
03 Mini One Diesel in red 70 mpg!!	£4999
56 Renault Megane 1.6 Dyna Cabriolet	£3999
51 VW Beetle in silver 3dr 78k miles	£3499
62 MG TF 1.8 Cabriolet in grey	£2999

Cash or Finance Up To £6999

08 Vauxhall Vectra Sri CDTi 150bhp 49k	£6499
57 Vauxhall Astra Sri CDTi X-Pack blue	£5499
06 Vauxhall Astra Design CDTi 3dr in blue	£5299
08 Ford Fiesta 1.25 Climate 3dr 20k miles	£5999
57 NEW SHAPE Ford Mondeo 2.0 Tdci	£5499

Cash or Finance Up To £4999

07 Renault Megane 1.5 DCI in blue 63k	£4999
57 Renault Megane 1.4 in black	£4999
56 Renault Megane 1.5 DCI in black	£4999
06 Renault Megane 1.5 DCI in silver	£4499
05 Renault Megane 1.5 DCI in red	£3499
08 Vectra Sri CDTi 150 bhp red + Sat Nav	£4999
55 Vauxhall Astra 1.6 SXi in black 34k	£3999
54 Peugeot 307 1.4 S 5dr in blue	£3999

Cash or Finance Up To £3499

05 Renault 1.2 Clio Extreme 3dr black	£3499
04 Vauxhall Vectra SXi CDTi in blue	£3499
03 Ford Focus 1.6 71k miles	£3499
53 Peugeot 307 S HDi 77k blue	£3499
54 Skoda Fabia 1.9 TDI in gold	£3499
04 Toyota Corolla 1.6 Colour 5dr grey	£3499
04 Fiat Punto 1.4 5dr in blue 64k	£2999
55 Ford Mondeo 1.8 LX 5dr in blue	£2499
53 Mazda 2 1.4 TDCi in blue	£2499

Estate Cars & Commercial

54 Mitsubishi L200 Warrior 2.5 LWB silver	£6999
54 Mercedes Vito 111 CDI LWB silver 104k	£6499
55 New BMW 320d SE Estate with leather	£9499
07 Honda Accord 2.2 CDTi Sport in blue	£4999
07 Vauxhall Vectra Design Estate CDTi	£4999
07 Vauxhall Vectra Design CDTi in blue	£4699
05 Ford Focus 1.6 TDCi Zetec in blue	£2999

S / 7 Seater MPV.s

07 Zafira Design 1.8 CDTi in silver 63k	£6499
06 Renault Scenic 1.6 Dynamique 48k	£3999
04 Ford Focus C-Max 1.6 Zetec silver	£3999
54 Ford Focus C-Max 1.8 Zetec blue	£3999
04 Vauxhall Zafira 1.6 Club in grey	£3499

Audenshaws Car Credit Centre

01384 412066

Proofs Required: Driving Licence, Proof of address.

Deposit may vary. A Guarantor may be required.

All cars come with 12 months MOT

AT HALESOWEN ROAD, NETHERTON DY2 9NT

(OPPOSITE IIDL)

www.audenshaws.co.uk

Open 10am-4pm on 28/29/30 & 31st December

Reopen 10am 2nd January 2012

buying

In your local
Express & Star

In your local
Chronicle

Online at
expressandstar.com



selling

The Midland's largest
shop window.

650,000 potential buyers
every week.

Thousands of new items
for sale every week.

**FREE
ADS**

Place your ad

By phone 01902 317878
8.30am - 7pm, Monday - Friday
8.30am - 12 noon Saturdays and Bank Holidays

By email
my-classified@expressandstar.co.uk

Online
www.expressandstar.com/my-classified

In person
at your local Express & Star office

Cancel/Amend
Call before 6.30pm Monday - Friday for the next day's advertisement
or before 10am Saturday for Monday's advertisement

classified

There's nothing like it for
buying and selling

01902 317878

www.expressandstar.com/my-classified

Lost & Found

LOST - Bright green Parrot with red tip on wings, Tipton area, Wednesday, December 21. Telephone 07866 075092.

personal

ADULT CINEMA and Sex Shop. We're still here, we were the first, the best and we'll be here after all the rest! The Foxy Lady, Oxford St, Bilston, 01902 490898.

SINGLE MALE 49
Wolverhampton area.
Seeks friendship of a female 40-50 for long lasting friendship.
I'm fed up of the lonely days and nights! If you are lonely why not contact me.
Photo appreciated (returned).
Box Number P17518,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WY1 1ES.

WOULD ELSIE MAY O AND JANN KATHLEEN O
born February 21, 1949 and November 22, 1952 respectively, last known address Leveson Street, Willenhall, please contact
Box Number P17517,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WY1 1ES.

LIVE CHAT!
INSTANT ACCESS TO 100'S OF HOT MEN & WOMEN
0906 966 1807

Chat & Date
0905 232 5307
Call Now!

market place

aerials

Are You Tuned In?
all in digital
SPECIAL OFFER!
Aerials from £85
One aerial into 3 rooms from £135 FREE
0800 6123992 07888 731489

antiques

VALENTINE AUCTIONS
Cosford
Lots wanted for January 16, 2012 sale. Antiques, Collectables, House Clearances, Probate. Monday - Friday 11am-4pm. Tel 01902 375555

collectables & memorabilia

COLLECTION OF CORGI
Heavy haulage models. All boxed, 12 in total. £700. No offers. 01384 564751

education & tuition

CLOISTERS
HALESOWEN TUTOR EST 1992
West Midlands Premier Agency
Home individual tutoring
LOCAL QUALIFIED TUTORS
Protection of Children Act regulated and Police checked
Primary 11+, SATS, Secondary, GCSE, A, Deg. etc.
0121 2124986
01902 671683
www.cloistersutoring.co.uk
NEW TUTORS WELCOME

elderly & disabled

WREKIN STAIR LIFTS
• Service & Repair
• Same Day Call Outs
• New & Replacement
from £1599
01952 405397
07897 273617

MOBILITY SCOOTERS From £250, trial welcome, can deliver. Call Powerlink, Blackheath, 01902 569216 or 07831 246292.

furniture

LEATHER BEAN BED, £50 no offers. 01902 423527 or 07564 113005.

house clearances

A ABSOLUTE BEST cash price paid for house clearances and bereavements. Tel: 07852 172641.

AA DIGITAL AERIALS
1 AERIAL INTO 2 ROOMS £25
1 AERIAL INTO 4 ROOMS £125
ALL WORK GUARANTEED
SAME DAY SERVICE
01902 636191 01384 429166
01922 716029

ROOFRITE DIGITAL AERIALS
Salters Rd., Walsall Wood
Aerial into: 1 Room from £50
2 Rooms from £83 3 Rooms from £110
4 Rooms from £130
ALL WORK GUARANTEED.
GIVE DISCOUNTS BEST BUSINESS.
RING DENNIS 07850 210120

pc's, laptops & accessories

Does Your PC Have Problems?
FREE ADVICE
FREE CALLOUT
AFFORDABLE
Open 8am-8pm
Call Now PCAid
0800 2343468

plumbing & heating

JASON HYDE PLUMBING & HEATING
Combi boilers from £1,400,
5 Year Warranty with 7 radiators from £2,200.
Bathroom & Tiling
CALL FREE 01902 689 565
0800 337303 01922 612 169
(After 5pm)

removals

A AND M CHEAP Removals local, careful firm, full/part loads. Don - 0800 587 0377 / 07749 941319.
A MAN WITH A VAN single/full loads, local/nationwide. Tel Steve 0121 422 2999/07815 043724

CHEAPER REMOVALS

REMOVAL VAN & DRIVER FOR HIRE.
Single Items to full removals.
01902 894916 / 07807 773035

skip hire

MT SKIPS
All sizes
All areas covered
Immediate delivery
01384 240956
07903 105712

GRINSELLS SKIP HIRE LTD.
Mini, midi, maxi, large. Screened soil and crushed hardcore for sale. 0121 555 6060.

specialists at your service

alarms/security
CTB ALARMS LTD Burglar Alarms supplied & fitted £110 Service/Repairs. 0121 634 8864

plans prepared
ADAM DESIGN, Building Plans. Drawn and submitted to council. Tel: 01902 620200/07841 654037.

roofing
MG ROOFING Flat roofs, tiling, roof repairs, fascias and gutters. Call 01902 238989 / 07580 465448.

tv/home entertainments

service
A TV PLASMA & LCD REPAIRS
Aerial / Wall mount. Set-ups. Any area. 7days. 07850 330251.

wedding bells

car hire
Splash LIMOUSINES
Any occasion, we'll get you there in style. White and Pink limos available. Free bubbly. 01384 345851 / 07974 920254.

leisure

car boot sales

BEST SATURDAY BOOT SALE 10am - 1pm
CHRISTMAS SPECIALS
Open December 24 and 31st.
Reopens Saturday Jan 7th by the Wheel Pub, between W10n and Bridgnorth WV15 5NR
Happy Christmas to everyone and a prosperous New Year.
Enquiries 07830 267041
www.bestbootsales.com

equestrian corner

STUART DEANE
Dip. WCF Mobile Farrier
Wishes all his loyal customers
'Seasonal Greetings'.

guns & dogs

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS
Advertisers must ensure that they meet all necessary legal requirements for owning and using guns.

in your garden

SHED SHOP
All sizes, Fence Panels, Concrete Posts etc.
Fitting service available
Immediate delivery
Free quotes
01384 482542

pets corner

NOTICE TO READERS
Please be aware that when purchasing a puppy there are some simple guidelines you can follow to ensure that you are not purchasing from a Puppy Farmer.
1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with its Mother.
2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.
3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree.
Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.
ALASKAN MALA MUTE Puppies, chunky and big bones, pedigree, both parents can be seen, ready now. £550 each.
01384 403708 / 07885 332934.
CAIRN TERRIER Puppies, 4 boys, 3 girls, brindle, KC applied, pedigree. £500. 07783 770573.
COCKER SPANIEL Puppy little boy, pedigree, home reared, ready now. 07967 391795.
COCKER SPANIEL Puppy little boy, pedigree, home reared, ready now. 07967 391795.
COLLIE GREYHOUND crossed, 6 Whippet Puppies, wross. £60 each.
01902 887275.

DOG TRAINING Kennel Club dog training. Is your dog a good citizen? Enjoy training with your dog in a safe and friendly environment. Good citizen puppy class and bronze scheme commences Monday, January 9th. Wolverhampton Dog Training Society. For details call 01902 324823. www.wolverhampton-dog-trainingsociety.co.uk

GERMAN SHEPHERD Puppies, boys, girls. Excellent pedigree. £200. 07786 521066, 0121 544 5864.

GOLDEN RETRIEVER Puppies. Vaccinated / vet health checked. KC reg. £600. 01902 850318.

PUP PUPPIES beautiful bitches and dogs, fawn and black. £800. 07866 285571.

RAGDOLL CAT, female, 12 months old, pedigree with papers. £280. 07387 827110 / 01384 486471.

SHIH-TZU PUPPIES Very small boys, pedigree. £550. 07592 926466.

STAFFORDSHIRE BULL Terrier puppies, ready now, £100. 07719 955999.

TEA CUP Yorkies, girl and boy, genuine homes only. £450. 07969 805045.

motoring

accessories & services

JVC CAR CD player, with MP3, never used, still boxed, ideal Christmas present. £50. 07878 829441.

clutches/breaks/gearboxes

A BARGAIN Clutch / Gearbox. MOT and servicing. For best quote / quality. Marcella Motors 01384 261965.

mobile mechanics
ALL AREAS, All Repairs. Ministry Qualified, 30 years experience. 01922 630640/07976 794991.

MOBILE MECHANICS Service & repairs. Headgaskets, clutches and cambelts. 07747 848469.

spares/parts

BASTABLE BATTERY BARGAINS / Car Spares. Tel: 0121 552 2851.

cars over £1500

BMW X5 2001 91k silver 3.0S manual, MOT Nov, full leather, fsh, 6CD, tracker, fleecelites, superb. £5,450. 07917 666212.

CITROEN C5 HDI LX 2.0 DIESEL ESTATE
53 plate, red, 67,850 miles, fsh, towbar, MOT September 2012, clean condition, £1,800.
Telephone 07890 025585.

LAND ROVER
FREELANDER 4X4
Serengiti, silver, three door, hard top, 2003, 10 Months MOT, abs, airbag, AC, alarm, CD, locking wheel nuts, petrol, manual, good clean condition inside and out.
£2,500 ono.
07788 934706.

RENAULT CLIO 2001, 50k, Taxed, long MOT, clean condition. Must be seen. £1,599. 07929 001592 / 01922 449277

VAUXHALL CORSA 1.0, 2006, 6 months Tax, 12 months MOT, 56k. Mint condition. £2,750. o.n.o. 01902 494343.

VOLVO CONVERTIBLE C70 2002(01), MoT January, tax June, outstanding condition, cream leather, high spec, fsh, 135,000 miles, mature owner. £2,150.
01562 852923 / 07572 068908.

VW BEETLE 2.0 2000, met blue, full MoT, tax end Jan, outstanding spec, immaculate throughout, 94k, fsh, unwanted Christmas gift, first to see will buy. £2,250.
01384 401189 / 07971 175627.

cars under £1500

ADVERTISERS ARE REMINDED
that the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order of 1977 requires that advertisements must clearly differentiate between Private and

CITROEN SAXO 1.1, sunroof, e/w, alloys, CD, full MoT, £575. 01902 833131 - 07754 557861.

FIAT PUNTO 2001, 1.2, 95,000 miles, tax and MoT June 2012, £695 ono. 01902 736592

FIAT PUNTO MK2 1.2, X reg, sunroof, stereo, 10 months MoT, 5 months tax, bargain. £695 ono. 07522 785340.

FORD FOCUS 1.6 Zetec, 2002, 5dr, black, full MoT, alloys, CD, EW, abs, pas, 80k with 52, excellent condition. £1,255. 07870 385602.

FORD KA 1.3 52 reg, 10 months MoT, 3 months tax, one owner, CD player, excellent condition, £595. 07505 674536.

FORD KA 2 1.3, T reg, 1999, metallic red, CL, PAS, EW, stereo, MOT, £650. 07984 320946.

FORD KA Special, 1.3, tax and MoT leather trim, air, CD, e/w, £675 ono. 01902 833131 - 07754 557861.

RENAULT CLIO 2000 reg, silver, MoT, Tax, 64k, CD player, electronics, alloys, alarm, bargain. £695. 07980 394239.

RENAULT CLIO Sport, 16v, 3dr, 1.2 hatchback, 2001, MoT/Tax, silver, superb condition. £1,250. 01384 440258 / 07882 413544.

RENAULT MEGANE RXE 2.0, Scenic, 17 reg, MoT and tax, red, tow bar, £475 o.n.o. 01902 496020.

ROVER 45 1.6, automatic, 2001, MoT July 2012 tax April, 56k, s/h, excellent condition, £595. Telephone 07588 768030.

ROVER 25 16 connoisseur 52 reg, petrol, all leather interior, many extras, tax Jan 12, full MoT Jan 12, 2002, 5900 ono. 01384 483449.

TOYOTA AVENTIS GLX VVTi, 2001, 1.8, fsh, tax March 12, new MoT, met, red, excellent, £975. 07920 052602.

VW POLO 1.4, 1997, 3dr, green, 118k, petrol, long MoT, Tax Jan, reliable, manual, ideal 1st car, cheap to run. £400. 07707 655819.

VW POLO 1.4 CLT reg, Taxed and MoT'd, Silver, light work required. £400. o.n.o. 07856 430420 or 01902 753526.

commercial vehicles

FORD ESCORT 55 Van, 1.8 diesel, 51 plate, red, MoT Sept, tax March, 72,300 miles, good condition. £650 ono. 07888 701840.

driving tuition

Homers
Learn to drive in a Mini, Clio, Corsa, Fiesta, 2007, 207, KA, Fiat 500
3 GREAT DEALS:
10 Hours £200!
1st Five Hours £50!
2 Hours £20!
All Areas Covered
Male & Female Instructors.
Manual & Automatic
Christmas & Birthday gift vouchers available.
0800 612 6650 / 07970 200066
www.homersdrivingschool.co.uk

4 wheelz
10 Driving Lessons £99
Free starter pass
Pass 1st time guarantee
0800 389 8059
0121 369 0229

motorbikes

COGGERS
MOTORCYCLE TRAINING
CBE, CPT, CTO
CDS COURSE £450
www.coggertraining.co.uk
(Cannock) 07838 138766
or 07984 034233

GO KART FUNDER Wheels/Race car, Briggs and Stratton engine, pull start, nice condition, £400 ono. 07802 655277.

SCHOOLBOY Scrambler, good condition, 50CC, £325. 01902 833131 - 07754 557861.

VESPA PX 125E 1999, MoT Aug 12, Tax March 12, Excellent condition, 8,000 kms, first to see will buy. £1,500 ono. 07730 598969.

YAMAHA T180 Schoolboy Trials bike, nice condition, approx 1979-80, £475 ono. 07802 655277.

scrap vehicles

BILSTON BREAKERS
TOP PRICES PAID FOR ALL SCRAP CARS, VANS, BIKES, CLASSICS
Tel: 01902 408176
1000's of parts available at all times
UNIT 6 MONMORE RD, WY1 2TZ

ONE CALL PAYS MORE
Certificate of Destruction Given For All Scrap Vehicles, All Areas
Call Chris
01902 820181
01243 820667

CHRIS PAYS THE BEST PRICE GUARANTEED
for all scrap cars & vans
Scrap it legally. Avoid fines
Get a Certificate Of Destruction
Ask the DVLA
Free collection 7 days
Call Chris:
01902 493110 1 Daytime
0121 525 5813
01902 659775 - evenings

NO WHEELS, NO KEYS, NO PROBLEM!
Top Prices Paid 4 Scrap Cars, Vans, Campers, 4x4's, MOT Failures
24 hr collection, 7 days, Any Area
07500 042351

vehicles wanted

CROWN MOTORS Guarantee best cash price for your unwanted car / van 01902 495758 / 07903 549849

alain reed cars
Used cars wanted for cash. Top prices paid. HP settled. Buyer could call.
01562 711083 / 07831 245313.

jobs

courses

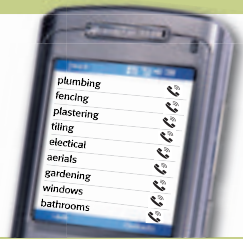
BILLY THOMAS
HGV DRIVING TRAINING
Inc B+E (CAR & TRAILER), THEORY, CPC TRAINING, 1-2-1 TUTORING
CALL 01902 744726
OR 07831 646601

thechronicle

experts

YOUR AD HERE

Call us on 01384 353250
to advertise your business on
these pages



BUILDERS

D H Household Maintenance
Decking to DIY
Plastering to Plumbing
Lowest prices
guaranteed
0121 422 8594
07985 548466

KITCHENS & BATHROOMS

C.J.P. Property Maintenance
DIY
Don't Involve Yourself
• Carpentry • Plumbing • Tiling
• Kitchens • Bathrooms
• Fascias, Soffits & Guttering
• Laminate Flooring • Plastering
• Decking • Fencing
• Brickwork & Alterations
• Extensions
NO JOB TOO SMALL
For a FREE no obligation
quote call Wayne on
Tel: 01384 572628
M: 07973 855569

DOUBLE GLAZING

BLACK COUNTRY GLAZING
FREE ESTIMATES!
Replacement Glass Sealed Units
ALL areas covered
Tel: 01384 566100

DOMESTIC INSTALLATIONS

Bow's Universal Domestic Installs
Gas Safe Register 506334
COOKER INSTALLS
Gas, Electric and LPG
Built-in Ovens and Hobs
Range Cookers and Hobs
Washers, Dishwashers,
Televisions, Wallmounts
also installed
Tel: 01562 741179
07973 534527
07932 723061

ELECTRICIANS

Starkey Electrical Ltd
DOMESTIC, COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL
For All Your Electrical Needs
Experienced Electricians at Competitive Prices
0121 602 8088 Mob: 07967 650567
Address: Manor Lane, Halesowen, West Midlands
Email: stuart@starkeyelectrical.co.uk
Web: www.starkeyelectrical.co.uk

MULLARD ELECTRICAL SERVICES
ALL TYPES OF DOMESTIC
ELECTRICAL WORK
UNDERTAKEN & FINISHED TO
THE HIGHEST STANDARD
Call Dan on:
01384 263357
or **07866 886364**
mbelectric.co.uk

MBelectric
All domestic and commercial
electrical works undertaken
Home rewiring from £800
For a high quality
local service call:
0121 3660311
07939 503905
mbelectric.co.uk

CARPENTRY

D. SHAW CARPENTRY & BUILDING SERVICES
20 Years
experience.
All Aspects of
Carpentry,
plus
Extensions,
Building, Conversions
and Renovations
For a free quote call
07812 125353
01384 412933

Michael Daniels Carpentry
Kitchens, Bathrooms & Tiling
Hardwood & Laminate Flooring
Stairs & Doors
0121 501 1568
07828 819 768
The Answer To All
Carpentry Needs

FUNERAL SERVICES

DAVIS MEMORIALS LTD
Established 1841 WRAMM ACCREDITED
*Make sure
your memories
live for ever*
• HANDCRAFTED LETTERING • RESTORATION • REPAIRS.
Come in and get some professional advice from us at:
56A Station Road, Old Hill, Cradley Heath, B64 6NU 1 Park Street, Kidderminster, DY11 6TN
01384 566958 or 01562 822106

FENCING

Fencing & Gates
All Garden Work Undertaken
• Slabbing • Block Paving • Tree Felling
• Turfing • Garden Clearance
NO JOB TOO SMALL
Manufacturers of all Concrete Products
eg. Concrete Posts, Gravel Boards
All work guaranteed Insurance work undertaken
Over 15 years experience (Public liability covered)
Call Steve on
01384 242891 or 07970 300586

GARDENING

ROWAN TREE & GARDEN SERVICES
• Tree Surgeon Specialist • Stump Grinding
• Gardens Maintained • Hedges • Fencing
• Turfing • Jungles Cleared
Emergency Call Out 24-7-365
01384 213644 or 07733 226568
Age Concern &
Local Authority Contractor
N.P.T.C. Qualified -
Public Liability Insurance (5mil)
All Staff C.R.B. Certified

Garden Transformations
From total makeovers and
clearances to
decking and
fencing
Guaranteed
lowest prices
0121 422
8594 or
07985 548466

R & S Gardens
• All garden work undertaken
• Hedges and lawns cut
• General tidy and rubbish removed
• Graves Tended
Telephone: **07851 323303**

HANDYMAN

Midlands Handyman for Home Improvements
e.g. Flat pack furniture • curtain and blind hanging
• hanging doors • felting sheds • changing locks
• painting & decorating • putting up shelves
• laying of ceramic / laminate floors • all at competitive prices
NO JOB TOO SMALL
Call Simon for a FREE Quote
01384 252108 / 07988 263578

PAVING

S & D
Building & Block Paving
Block Paved Drives & Patios, Cobbles,
Slabbing, Garden Walls, Extensions,
Feature Brickwork
Over 35 years Bricklaying Experience
NO ONE DOES IT BETTER
Full Portfolio, Competitive Prices & Free Quotations
Tel: **01384 637996 or 07989 179912**

PLASTERING

AB PLASTERING
All types of plastering work
undertaken
OVER 28 YEARS EXPERIENCE
FREE quotes & friendly advice
Call Free on **0800 046 1918**
or **07971 569648**

Nick's Plastering Services
ALL TYPES OF
PLASTERING WORK
UNDERTAKEN
Advanced City and
Guilds Qualified
OVER 30 YEARS
EXPERIENCE
Low Prices
FREE QUOTES
0121 559 4818
07930 525677

DH PLASTERERS
FROM boarding,
skimming, patching
and repairs TO
complete rooms
GUARANTEED
LOWEST PRICES
0121 422 8594 or
07985 548466

PLUMBING & HEATING

PlumbSmart Solutions
• FAST • AFFORDABLE • RELIABLE
We work in and around the West Midlands and offer an
emergency call-out service 24 hours a day 7 days a week
• Leaks • Taps • Immersion Heaters
• Overflows • Tanks • Bathroom Refurbs
• Burst Pipes • Hot Water Problems
• Toilets • Cylinders
SPECIAL OFFERS
10% DISCOUNT
for OAPs
Tel: **07977 803310 - 01384 212805**
Website: www.plumbSMARTsolutions.com
email: plumbSMARTsolutions@yahoo.com

HOUSEHOLD PLUMBING
(General Plumbing and Bathrooms)
All installations and repairs
Supply and fit or fit only
TIDY, MODERN APPROACH. REGISTERED PLUMBER
No job too small. Friendly service. Free advice and quotes
Tel: **07968 786449 - 0121-601 6767**
www.household-plumbing.co.uk

Knight Gas
Heating & Plumbing
Central Heating/Boilers
Fires and Cookers
Installation and Repair
All Plumbing Work
Landlords certificate
FREE QUOTES
Call Gary on
0121 550 3424 or
07715 082113

SUPERWARM HEATING
Specialists in
replacing Boilers,
Power Flushing Systems
& Upgrading Systems
30+ YEARS EXPERIENCE
Ex British Gas
Call Eddie
07976 755441
0121 544 8427

KEN PERRY
PLUMBING & HEATING ENGINEER
Gas Fitting, Boiler Servicing
and Immersion Heaters,
Multi Point Water Heaters,
Landlord's Gas Certificates,
Boilers changed
Guild of Master Craftsmen
Gas Safe Registered
STOURBRIDGE **392284**

ARTEX MAN
Complete range
Repairs and coving
FOR FREE ESTIMATE
Telephone Tim on Sedgley
(01902) 675144/
07890 655189

UPHOLSTERY

JC RE-UPHOLSTERY SERVICES
Specialists in
Re-upholstery, Repairs
and Antiques
CONTRACT & DOMESTIC
No Job Too Small
FREE ESTIMATES
Choice of patterns
Quality Workmanship
0121 561 3977 daytime
or 0121 561 2344
evenings after 6 pm

ROOFING

WTN Roofing Services
Fast and friendly service from a family run
business, with over 10 years' experience
SPECIALISTS IN TILE, SLATE,
fibreglass flat roofing, flat felt roofing, uPVC,
fascias, soffits and guttering, lead work,
pointing and storm damage
no job too big or too small
For a free quote call
0121 421 1649 or 07841 046 126
Kent Road, Halesowen, B62 8PD

Roofing Contractors

Est 30 Years
A Friendly Family Business
Felt Roof, Tiling, Slating
PVC Fascias, Gutters
Fibreglass Flat Roofing - 20 Years Guarantee
Gutters Cleared £15.00
Roofing Repairs £15.00
FREE ESTIMATES
Telephone: **01384 345209**
07773 001859 anytime

SKIP HIRE

Halesowen Skip Hire
Mini, Midi + Builders Skips
Great Rates, Fast Delivery
0121 550 3819 Mucklow Hill,
07796 170534 Halesowen

TILING

CERAMIC FLOOR & WALL TILING
BATHROOMS, KITCHENS AND
CONSERVATORIES
For a free quote call
Tony Baker
0121 422 4116
07961 604632

For best results...
advertise on our weekly

Specialists in Business

- Business
- Auctions
- Property
- Plant & Machinery
- Premises
- Business for Sale

Contact Richard Guest on

01902 319872

r.guest@expressandstar.co.uk

Express & Star
IN PAPER | ONLINE



Bargain buy? Fernando Torres

If you live to be 150, you might see this . . .

IT was the British scientist Aubrey De Gray who issued one of the more thought provoking sentences of 2011, writes **Martin Swain**.

The University of Cambridge graduate said the first person who will live to see their 150th birthday has already been born. Even more incredibly, he claimed that the first person to live for 1,000 years will be born in the next two decades.

The British scientist sees a time when people will go to their doctors for regular 'maintenance', which by then will include gene therapies, stem cell therapies, immune stimulation and a range of other advanced techniques to keep them in good shape.

What, I wondered, will the 150-year-old football fan of tomorrow live to see? Here's five to begin with:

1. England win the World Cup: Maybe. It must be one of the great laments of this most financially successful era of the domestic game that international glory continues to elude the nation. A huge pity this.

Many will remember the invigorating buzz that electrified the country during the halcyon days of Euro 96; there are plenty of us still around who felt the extraordinary impact of 1966.

There may be many things wrong with our game, many factors for which it is justifiably resented in other parts of the world. But there is no doubt that

the English remain one of the driving forces of football's march across the globe.

2. Fernando Torres score: Has there been anything more baffling than the collapse in this formerly brilliant striker's form since his move to Chelsea? It may be too late for him at Chelsea but he could be a brilliant signing – at an inevitably lesser price – for another club in the future.

3. The Baggies signing a player in Janu. . . sorry. Scrub that. Now we are getting a little far-fetched.

4. The fit and proper persons test actually applied. There is nothing more glib, it appears, than a slightly desperate football club pining for a shot at

glamour and subsequently seduced by an unknown name from a distant land turning up and promising fistfuls of the green stuff to finance their dreams.

But from Shiniwatra to Yeung, via any number of dodgy characters from the USSR's break-up not to mention the laughable Venky's at Blackburn, they invariably turn out to be chancers without a proverbial pot in which to take a comfort break.

5. Jeff Bonser putting in an appearance at Walsall: Or, at least, communicating with the his club's dwindling band of followers.

During the days before he shut himself off from the world, Bonser maintained he would never do anything to

the detriment of Walsall FC. But, in case he hadn't noticed, Walsall FC is dying.

And it's on his watch. He and his club, which enjoys a natural and broad affection among the region's football followers, need all the help they can muster.

Taking his ball home and locking himself in his room for a good sulk is, frankly, childish and serves only to endorse those who damn him.

Read Martin Swain every day in the Express & Star

Big Sam gets thumbs up for silencing Brady bunch

Chief Sports Writer Martin Swain takes a sideways look back on 2011 and gives out his awards

Outstanding Contribution to English Football

OK, so the Hammers faithful may be moaning about the football they're seeing – but it's all gone quiet down Upton Park thanks to Sam Allardyce.

Any man who can lay his hands on industrial-sized gaffer tape and stick it over the mouths of the unholy trinity of Gold, Sullivan and Brady deserves our praise.

The Ally McLeod Premature Triumphalism Ribbon

To be pinned on the lapels of Manchester United chief executive David Gill. "Yes, we can get a Barcelona or a Real Madrid, but I'm sure they don't want to play us in the last 16 either. At the end of the day, you never know what the draw is going to be," he said two weeks before a slightly more uncomfortable excursion to Switzerland than he imagined.

The Cameron-Sarkozy Entente Cordiale Award

To Marseille sporting director José Anigo following his words of advice for any budding French Ligue 1 talents dreaming of playing their trade in the Premier League: "Behind the 'big guns' like Chelsea or Manchester (United), there's also Sunderland or Wolverhampton. French players who are used to getting on the ball end up watching it fly over their heads for 90 minutes."

The People's Award (for saying stuff we like)

A big 'well done' to Everton goalkeeper Tim Howard, nominated from this Q&A session. Question: If you had supreme power, what's the first thing you would do to improve the Premier League?

Answer: Probably create a luxury tax. Not that that solves every problem, and I'm sure there's others that you can think of, but I think that would help."



Big Sam, above, has managed to silence the outspoken owners at West Ham while Wayne

The 'Allo 'Allo Trophy

To Joe Cole after being ambushed by the Canal+ touchline reporter Laurent Paganelli after Lille's 3-1 win over Lyon: "Bon match pour... my team – mon équipe – et... I'm very happy!" He knew that French CSE grade four would come in handy some time.

The Wayne Bridge Award for Best Job in Football

For the third year in succession this award goes to... Wayne Bridge – £92,000 a week, people. That's right. £92,000. A week.

The Keane-Taggart Trophy for Old Comrades

German defender Philipp Lahm, looking back in his autobiography on Jurgen Klinsmann's reign as national manager in the 2006 World Cup: "The experiment with Klinsmann

was a failure. We were only working on our fitness in training. He didn't care much for tactical stuff."

"It was up to the players to come together before a match and discuss how we were going to play. All the players knew after about eight weeks that it was not going to work out with Klinsmann."

The remainder of that campaign was nothing but limiting the damage."

The Kim Jong-il 'Dear Leader, Sun of Communist Future, Shining Star of Paektu Mountain' Trophy

To Angela Westwood, whose regular reports to the sportsdesk on the fortunes of Bridgnorth Town Colts Under-12s are genuinely appreciated. Less so is her job title: "Peripatetic Asses-



sor/ Internal Verifier/Tutor Social Care and

Health Training and Assessment Centre Learning, Employment and Training Services Learning and Skills Group, Shropshire Council...."

The Always Leave Some Wiggle Room Award, kindly sponsored for another year by Wayne 'Once a Blue, Always a Blue' Rooney

To Costa Rica international and £11m Fulham summer signing Bryan Ruiz.

"I didn't want to go to Fulham at all. I was happy with Tottenham's previous interest in me. They are a dream club and one you join without hesitation." Fulham came along on August 30... I had my doubts again but attractive financial terms, and a talk with Martin Jol, dragged me over the line."

The next day: "As soon as Fulham's interest was apparent to me in the summer, and despite very public interest from other clubs, I was only ever intent on joining Fulham." Sure you were, pal; sure you were.

The Nick Clegg Brownnose Cup

Step forward Anfield hopeful Krisztian Adorjan, interviewed by Liverpool's website for the new season. Best ever player in your position?

"Our first-team boss, Kenny Dalglish and Zinedine Zidane. I always loved watching Zizou and have seen some DVDs of our manager and he was a fantastic footballer." Nice try, son.

The Sir Winston Churchill Memorial Award

"It was a win of human values, team spirit, solidarity, responsibility, strength of character, resilience."

Andre Villas-Boas invokes the spirit of the Allies prevailing in the Second World War to describe, err, Chelsea beating Valencia in a game of footy.

The Play School Trophy for Inappropriate Transfers

To Real Madrid for signing seven-year-old Argentinian dribbler Leonel Angel Coira.

The child didn't begin training with the Spanish giants until September, which means he's unlikely to feature in any of this season's El Clasicos.

Services to the British Tattoo Industry

To Birmingham resident Kirk Bradley, whose right arm is now preparing for its third dose of paint in celebration of his beloved Manchester City.

His first was done in 2009 and read: 'Manchester City 2011 Champions League Winners'.

That was a little previous, so he had it changed to 2012.

After the misadventure in Napoli, an undeterred Kirk prepared for further alterations: "It's going to happen one day," he said bravely.

Happy New Year all.



WORCESTER accredited installer

All work is carried out by fully qualified engineers

SPECIAL OFFERS

- Boiler Services £45
- Landlord Checks £35
- Power Flush
- (7 Radiator System) £250

- Boiler Services
- Landlord Checks
- Full Central Heating Systems
- Boiler Swaps and Conversions
- Bathroom Installations
- Power Flushing
- Air Conditioning
- Air to Air Heat
- Gas Appliance Installations
- All Domestic Plumbing Work

FREE Magna Filter with all Heating Systems!

7 year warranty on selected boilers

Office Open 8am-6pm Monday-Friday 8am-4pm Saturday

Tel: 01384 560856 • 07737 261976

www.gasteksolutions.co.uk info@gasteksolutions.co.uk

Halesowen, West Midlands

Did Your Boiler Condensation Pipe Freeze Up Last Winter

For a one off payment it will never freeze again!

Call for details before its Too Late



Emergency Call Out Over Christmas Period



(All prices are plus VAT)

SPORT

Sports Desk 01902 319459



Tell us your news

Get YOUR team featured in the Chronicle

email chronsport@expressandstar.co.uk

Goal hero Lloyd has Cause to celebrate

TIVIDALE suffered a narrow 1-0 defeat in their Boxing Day derby at Causeway. The game took a while to get going as Causeway's four-man midfield blocked the more adventurous Tivdale line-up and it was almost 20 minutes before either side managed to get a worthwhile effort on goal.

Chris Russell was the first player to threaten to score but his effort was well saved by Tom Turner. The ball fell to Kyle Hill but his cross just failed to find any of the supporting Tivdale forwards.

Russell's effort proved to be the first and last decent effort of a scrappy first half.

The second period opened brightly and in contrast to the previous 45 minutes, scoring opportunities began to emerge. In the 52nd minute Tivdale's Jason Chilton put Russell through but he lost his footing allowing Matt Aston to punt clear.

Two minutes later Hill was brought down on the edge of the box but from the free-kick Danny Ashton shot straight at Turner.

Ten minutes later Turner dropped the ball in the area for the third time and Russell pounced before he was upended, but the expectant penalty did not materialise.

The game was settled in the 73rd minute when Aaron Lloyd latched on to a through ball and rounded a defender before slotting past the stranded Tim Beech.

Waite bags a hat-trick

NATHAN WAITE was Tip-ton's hat-trick hero as they stroled to a 6-0 Midland Alliance win at Willenhall.

His first arrived on 22 minutes when he touched a long throw-in home.

The Lockmen held out until seven minutes before the break when Waite again had a free header after Jack Austin had headed the initial effort off the line.

The hat-trick arrived on 44 minutes from another free header from another long throw.

On 59 minutes James Cooper burst through and dinked the ball over keeper Liam Flynn.

The fifth goal arrived on 76 minutes when another break down the right by Cooper saw him fire a ball into the six-yard box that Flynn half stopped but a deflection diverted it in.

Leigh Downing nipped in to score on 85 minutes.

Clark is hopeful of Bridging points gap

By Timothy Abraham

CIARAN CLARK is relishing the prospect of a trip to Chelsea on New Year's Eve despite Villa's poor record against the Premier League big-boys.

The claret and blues have lost all of this season's meetings with the other five members of the Premier League top six which makes the match at Stamford Bridge a daunting prospect for Villa fans.

But Clark, who has just broken back into the team, has fond memories of last season's game where his late goal secured a point for Villa in a thrilling 3-3 draw.

And even though the odds are stacked

against Alex McLeish's side, the versatile 22-year-old believes Villa have the potential to take something from the game.

"That was a good day, but we should have won the game. We were only minutes away from winning and I don't know how we even managed to pull it back to a draw. It was brilliant, but I'm hoping we can come away with three points this year," said Clark.

"Our side's good enough to beat anyone in this league. All the lads know that. We can do it. We've just got to stick together

and hopefully we can go down there and keep a good defensive shape like we did at Stoke and then we can go forward and hopefully create chances.

"It would be great to end 2011 with a win, that's what we're looking to do and hopefully we'll come away with the points."

Clark is happy to see his partnership with Stiliyan Petrov in the centre of midfield growing with each game and is hopeful he will get a run in the side having impressed alongside the Villa skipper.

"We train every day together so we know what each other can do. We're told just to

sit and make sure we keep it compact and tight in there and I think we did that on the defensive side at Stoke," added Clark.

"I think we could maybe work on going forward a bit more but we got our defence sorted. At the moment I just want to keep playing, keep working hard and hopefully I can keep getting picked and being involved."

"Last season I had plenty of game time. I'm looking to build on that this season but I've had to wait patiently for a turn because the lads have been doing brilliantly."

"I've finally got my chance and hopefully I can stay in there."

Yeltz hit goal trail to see off Stourport

HALESOWEN eased to a 4-1 win over the Evo-Stik Southern Division One South & West basement side Stourport Swifts.

The home defence made a shaky start as Gareth Davies sliced the ball straight to Kevin Vogeli after just 30 seconds, but goalkeeper Paul Evans made a good blocking save against his former club.

As Halesowen settled, Lee Chilton squared the ball for Mark Smith to poke just wide.

Naveed Arshad put the Yeltz ahead in the 18th minute when he collected Justin Nisbett's high, hanging cross and forced the ball past keeper Hayden Whitcombe.

Halesowen doubled their lead after 35 minutes when Chilton made a speedy run down the left and his cross along goal was turned into his own net by former Yeltz centre-back Dennis Pearce.

Stourport's efforts on goal proved rare although Thomas Boyle hit a low raking drive just past Halesowen's half-time substitute goalkeeper Simon Flower early in the second period.

Arshad claimed his second goal in simple fashion by tapping home Nisbett's cross to make it 3-0 after 59 minutes. A delightful fourth goal followed 90 seconds later when Chilton picked his spot with a delicate chip.

Stourport netted an 80th-minute consolation with a Louis Bridges penalty.

Yeltz host Magnotsfield on Saturday with a changed kick-off time of 1pm.

Record sales at Brummies

BIRMINGHAM Brummies have hit record advance season ticket sales for the next speedy season.

Helped by a reduced pricing structure and several highly-attractive signings by boss Graham Drury, sales have so far exceeded the figures reached in the five-year history of the club.

Co-owner Alan Phillips said: "We are delighted with this tremendous response."

"Season tickets sales are already 25 per cent better than the whole 2011 season."

The Chronicle, a Midland News Association Ltd publication, printed by the company at Ketley, Telford, Thursday, December 29, 2011.

JONES AIMS TO BE BAGGIES REGULAR

ALBION defender Billy Jones has revealed his New Year's resolution – to become a Premier League regular.

The summer signing from Preston has set his sights on keeping Steven Reid on the sidelines when the Baggies' regular right-back completes his recovery from knee surgery.

But the 24-year-old, who will begin 2012 as a starter against Everton on Sunday, knows he must maintain the form that earned him man-of-the-match honours against Manchester City on Boxing Day. "My aim is to stay in the team but we've got a strong squad," said Jones. "Reidy is injured at the moment, Gonzalo (Jara Reyes) has come back from loan and there is competition for places, which is always healthy within a club."

"It makes players play better and improves performances."

"I just hope I can play like I did on Boxing Day and maybe improve again on my performance and get some good team results."

"Being on the sidelines is frustrating but if players are doing well there is no need to make changes."

"Reidy was playing well, as were the team."

"I always knew I'd have to be patient and wait for my chance and unfortunately it's come because Reidy has got a knock."

"I hear he's going to be OK, so that's good but it's a chance now and I hope I can take it by playing well and getting some good results as a team."

The impressive goalless draw with leaders City gave the Baggies ninth place in the Premier League after their final fixture of 2011.

And Jones is keen to see them match or better last season's 11th-place finish.

"As a team we just want to get to the 40-point mark as soon as we can and then see how we can do," he said.

"Last season, the team got to the 40-point mark and then finished 11th."

"That's what we want to do this season. The gaffer has talked about how the squad is stronger and every-

one gets on well and everyone is willing to work hard for each other.

"I think that was proved on Boxing Day, with all the graft the lads put in."

"If we can work like that as a team every week, individual brilliance up front and creativity in midfield will lead to us winning more games than we lose."

"It comes from being organised and we were very organised on Boxing Day."

Meanwhile, boss Roy Hodgson has demanded more clean sheets from his team as he urged them to build on their Boxing Day heroics.

The Baggies became the first domestic side this season to stop Premier League leaders Manchester City from scoring as they earned a point from a goalless draw.

Hodgson is now demanding more of the same after the shut-out of City gave his side their fourth clean sheet of the season.

The head coach said: "I'm very proud of it, and what's more I'd like to see more of it."

"We rely so heavily on scoring goals because we don't keep many clean sheets."

"We need more clean

sheets and hopefully this will give us the confidence that if we can keep Manchester City out we can keep other teams out, if we work as hard as we can."

Centre-back Jonas Olsson played a major part in Monday's draw but the Swedish defender insisted the entire Baggies team must share the credit for denying in-form City a goal.

"We're very pleased with a point and our performance," said Olsson.

"I think we deserved a point, especially on the back of our second half."

"It was a great point against a very good team."

"It's a challenge being up against the world-class strikers they have in the team and on the bench, and I think it was a very good clean sheet."

"We knew it was going to be hard but fair play to not only the back-four, but Ben Foster (goalkeeper) as well."

"And as a team I think we defended like a unit from Peter Odemwingie and Shane Long up front to the back."

"We've not managed to get the clean sheet until now but in the last couple of games we've defended well as a unit and it paid off."



Billy Jones holds off Manchester City striker Mario Balotelli at The Hawthorns

Have a value service for **£99** and get free **AA** cover with home start, relay and European cover worth **£180.00**



Value Service



Nectar points for all £99 services

£99

- Manufacturer Trained Technicians
- Manufacturer Guaranteed Parts
- Manufacturer Recommended Engine Oil
- Main Dealer Stamp in your service book

Only valid for UK spec

Vehicles 3 years and older

Offer valid until February

Halesowen Motorhouse, Dudley Road, Halesowen B63 3HN

www.halesowenmotorhouse.co.uk Tel 0121 503 0001

the chronicle

Unmissable **HALF PRICE** offers from Leekes, the home experts



Local home department store Leekes of Bilston have just unveiled their biggest ever sale.

There's an impressive array of half price offers on a whole host of essentials for every room in the home - including sofas, beds, kitchens, bathrooms, dining sets, accessories and more.

And, having recently celebrated their first, very successful year of trading in the Midlands, Managing

Director Emma Leeke commented: "This winter we wanted to offer our customers something unmissable - and with more half price offers than ever before, I think we've succeeded."

"My team have carefully selected an exciting yet practical mix of home essentials which combine quality, practicality, style - and affordability."

Before 2nd January, customers will also receive a **store voucher worth 10%*** of their Leekes purchase when they spend £50 or more.

PLUS AN EXTRA

10% BACK*

**IN STORE VOUCHERS
ENDS THIS WEEKEND**

HALF PRICE offers across the store

Shop online at leekes.co.uk

Bilston, Great Bridge Road, West Midlands. WV14 8LB
Telephone **0845 050 8240**

■ Furniture ■ Beds ■ Carpets ■ Interior Design ■ Sound & Vision ■ Conservatories, Windows & Doors ■ Kitchens
■ Accessories ■ Bathrooms ■ Fitness & Leisure Clothing ■ Lighting ■ Home Textiles ■ Fire Studio ■ Paint & Wallpaper

Leekes
You're home

Top half price offers

Emma Leeke's top picks in the Leekes winter sale include:

Dyson DC25i

Upright vacuum cleaner with cyclone and ball technology.
Was £359 | Sale **£179**

Jamie Oliver by Tefal
16cm saucepan with lid.
Was £54 | Sale **£27**

Casa Mirage

Black wall hung electric fire.
Was £299 | Sale **£149**

Morphy Richards

Two slice stainless steel toaster.
RRP £39.99 | Sale **£19.99**

Brushed Steel Kettle
RRP £59.99 | Sale **£29.99**

Christy Charlton Gold

Jacquard design double duvet cover in rich gold tones.
RRP £125 | Sale **£62.50**

Casa Rachael
Sleek white acrylic curved freestanding bath.
Was £999 | Sale **£499**



Hot looks for homes in 2012!

Jo Griffiths Interior Design Consultant at Leekes picks her highlights from the latest collections and shows you how to get the look for your lounge for less.



- 1 The Casa Pedro sofas are in this season's hottest shade of teal and great value at £899 for a three and two seater sofa set.
- 2 Make a real style statement with this silver Stella starburst clock; half price at £15.
- 3 Co-ordinate with these funky little table lamps available in ivory or teal - now half price at just £15 each.
- 4 Add assorted scatter cushions in contrasting shades to bring extra luxe to your look; only £5 each.

BIGGEST EVER
HALF PRICE

sale

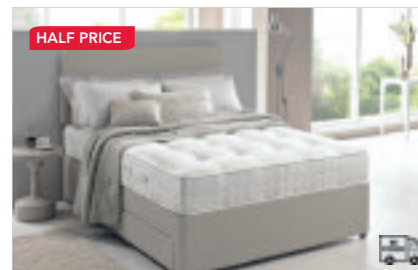
PLUS AN EXTRA
10%
BACK*
IN STORE VOUCHERS
ENDS THIS WEEKEND



Casa Kember

Acacia wood veneered table with six slatted back chairs.

Was £1799
Sale **£899**



Rest Assured Timara

Double four drawer storage divan set with orthopaedic support.

Was £1099
Sale **£549**



Casa Warwick

Striking red leather three seater sofa with plush arms.

Was £1799
Sale **£899**

Choose from a fantastic selection of **HALF PRICE** offers for every room.

LOWEST PRICE
GUARANTEED**

Leekes
You're home

Shop online at leekes.co.uk Bilston, Great Bridge Road, West Midlands. WV14 8LB | Telephone 0845 050 8240

■ Furniture ■ Beds ■ Carpets ■ Interior Design ■ Sound & Vision ■ Conservatories, Windows & Doors ■ Kitchens
■ Accessories ■ Bathrooms ■ Fitness & Leisure Clothing ■ Lighting ■ Home Textiles ■ Fire Studio ■ Paint & Wallpaper

There's more than you might expect at Leekes

With 35 departments over two floors and quite literally thousands of products to choose from, it's no wonder Leekes of Bilston is proving a popular destination.

With so much choice and variety, it really is worth taking the time to investigate just what is available in the West Midlands' largest new department store. You'll be surprised!

As well as the wide range of sofas, dining sets, beds and bedroom furniture available on the furniture floor and the state of the art kitchen, bathroom and conservatory studios, there is also a large range of accessories to provide your finishing touches and help you shop for everything you need, under one roof.

Store Manager Tony Squires sums up the Leekes approach: "We don't just sell bathrooms - but also the

tiles, paint, towels, lights and accessories to complete your look; and this the case for every room in your home."

"You'll even find fitness equipment to kick start your new year regime and leisure clothing from leading brands like Animal, Weird Fish, Protest, Craghoppers, Regatta and O'Neill."

The store also offers a modern and comfortable café serving teas, coffees and a range of hot and cold snacks including freshly prepared sandwiches and baked potatoes.

Superb sale savings on these BIG brands



Leekes home department store at Bilston



BIG savings on BIG brands too...



The G Plan Upholstery Studio offers the latest models with up to **30% off RRP**.



Built to last, the beautiful Ercol cabinet collection is available at **25% off RRP**.



The ultimate in sleep technology, a Tempur bed guarantees a good night's sleep with **25% off RRP**.



Durable yet timeless, the Le Creuset collection is available at **up to 20% off selected lines**.



Enjoy **up to 30% off** the latest looks from the Animal autumn/winter collection.



Create your own sanctuary with the latest innovations from Jacuzzi - now **20% off RRP**.

Why Leekes?

We like to think that being a family-owned business selling everything for the home all under one roof makes us unique, but there are lots of other reasons why we stand out from the crowd.

Flexible & Affordable Finance†

Flexible & Affordable Finance. From interest free credit with no deposit on selected items to low APR finance on conservatories.

Home Delivery Service

When we deliver your goods, we'll contact you on the morning of delivery with an estimated arrival time and unpack your goods, taking the packaging away for recycling.

Online Shopping

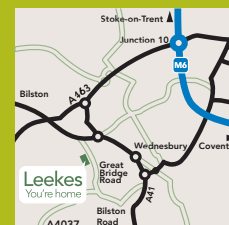
Thousands of items available to purchase at the click of a button at leekes.co.uk.

360° Complete Service

We like to help customers with every aspect of their home improvements. Ask about our free design, planning and project management service.

Price Promise*

Our commitment to offer the best price - supported by our money back guarantee.



For details of all our offers visit leekes.co.uk
Bilston Great Bridge Road, West Midlands WV14 8LB
 Telephone **0845 050 8240**

Increase your living space with style

Extending or converting space in our homes rather than moving house is a trend that looks set to continue as the property market continues to stagnate. If you have a growing family and are in need of more living space, or you simply want somewhere to relax and escape from the day to day stresses of modern life, then a conservatory, orangery or glass veranda could be the perfect solution.

With over 100 years of history, Leekes is a family owned business that has been trusted by thousands of people to undertake their home improvement projects. With industry accredited Design Consultants and a constantly evolving range of styles and designs, Leekes can tailor make a solution to suit your needs and budget.

An orangery, with its partially solid construction and signature lantern style roof provides the perfect solution for a kitchen extension, dining room or multi purpose space in which to relax. By adding a large expanse of bi-folding doors or patio sliders across one aspect, you can enjoy easy access to your garden and truly invite the outdoors in.

Alternatively, Leekes offer a wide range of conservatories from the more traditional white or wood grain to a range of coloured foil finishes and even tiled roof options. Our 3m x 3m Casa conservatory starts from **only £9,995**.

For those looking for something a bit different, a glass veranda extension offers an all-weather alfresco style conservatory that can be entirely

opened up with bi-fold doors or in-line sliders, complete with a weather protected outside space.

Leekes offer a full 360° service which includes design, obtaining all planning permission, project management, installation and a comprehensive 10 year guarantee. A full range of finance options is also available with deposits from just £100 and **7.9% APR representative.***



The Casa conservatory – a fantastic new addition to your home



A Leekes orangery will be the envy of friends and neighbours



Bring the outside in with a glass veranda extension



An Orangery can offer a perfect combination of kitchen, dining and living space

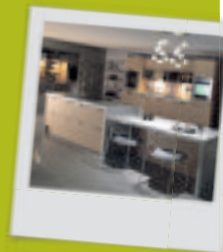


Book your design appointment TODAY!

Arrange your FREE design consultation by calling 0845 050 8240 or book online at leekes.co.uk/quote

Leekes Kitchens | Fact File

- Over 40 kitchens on display from leading brands including Rotpunkt, Sheraton, Charles Rennie Mackintosh, Cucina and Casa
- Choose from hundreds of styles, colours and finishes
- Integrated appliances from leading brands including Neff, Caple, Stoves and Hotpoint
- Durable yet stylish worktops in granite, silestone, glass, wood, corian or maia
- Complete 360° design and installation service available



Leekes Bathrooms | Fact File

- Over 100 bathrooms and showers on display
- State of the art design and innovation from leading brands including Heritage, Jacuzzi, Kohler, Utopia, Roman, Daryl and more
- Stylish storage solutions and brassware available
- Coordinating bathroom accessories and tiles available to complete your look
- Complete 360° design and installation service available



Charles Rennie Mackintosh Framed Natural Oak

Solid oak framed cabinets with veneered centre panels

Sale | Half price cabinets**



RAK Reserva

Contemporary curved bath plus toilet with soft close seat and basin with pedestal (excludes brassware)

Was £950 | **Sale £475**

FREE TILES
with every kitchen
or bathroom order†

PLUS AN EXTRA 10% BACK* IN STORE VOUCHERS
ENDS THIS WEEKEND

Bilston

Great Bridge Road,
West Midlands.
WV14 8LB
Tel: 0845 050 8240

Shop online at
leekes.co.uk

Leekes
You're home

*Conditions and minimum spend applies; Maximum £500 of vouchers on monies received, not order value. ** Discounts applies to doored cabinets only, excludes plumbing and electrics, ex-display and clearance lines. Discounts vary according to range. †Conditions apply, see in store for details. Free tiles from our promotional range to the value of 10% of total purchase up to a maximum of £750 in kitchens or £500 in bathrooms. ‡Finance is subject to status, conditions apply.